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ATAY DIRECTION

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The World's Daily Newspaper

London, Thursday, April 2, 1998

# World Bank's Estimate For Jakarta: \$3 Billion

Official Says Total Is for Urgent Aid in '98, In a Process That's 'Going to Be Years'

By Michael Richardson

SINGAPORE — The World Bank is warning that \$3 hillion in emergency food and medical aid will be needed over the next year to help Indonesia provide essential supplies to millions of people affected by drought and the eco-

Ahead of a meeting in Washington on Wednesday of officials from 21 donor countries and 17 development banks to coordinate assistance to the world's fourth most populous nation, Dennis de Tray, head of the World Bank office in Jakarta, said that a precipitous fall in the value of its currency, along with rapidly rising unemployment, inflation and food prices, had confronted Indonesia with a difficult situation.

To our knowledge, no country has suffered the kind of withdrawal of confidence in its own currency that In-donesia has suffered, since the Second World War," he said. "The recovery is not going to be easy. With the best of intentions and the best of commitment, it's going to take a while. It's going to be

years, not months."
The \$3 hillion in aid for Indonesia cited by the World Bank would be in addition to more than \$40 billion in loans organized by the International Monetary Fund in a so far vain attempt to prop up the Indonesian currency, the rupiah, and revive investor confidence in an economy that up until this year was growing at an annual rate of more than 6 percent - fast enough to reduce poverty and unemployment, and raise per capita

incomes for most of the population.

The IMF suspended a \$3 billion disbursement of the loan package last month because it was not satisfied that Jakarta was carrying out promised reforms, including strengthening the banking and legal systems, ending monopolies, cutting government spend-

ing and eliminating subsidies.

But analysts said that the looming recession in Indonesia and concern that

See INDONESIA, Page 4

By Ethan Bronner

New York Times Service

demonstration of the impact of Cali-

fornia's referendum that banned the

use of race and ethnicity in college

admissions, the state's most compet-

itive public universities have an-

nonneed steep drops in admissions of

black and Hispanic applicants for

At the University of California,

Berkeley, the most selective public university in the country, African-

Americans, Hispanic-Americans and

Americans, rispanic-Americans and American Indians together made up 10.4 percent of the total pool of admitted freshmen for 1998. J. 1997, they made up 23.1 percent. At the University of California, Los Angeles,

minority representation fell to 12.7 percent, from 19.8 percent last year.

mixture of disappointment, anger,

frustration, hope and resolve, "said Robert Berdahl, Berke ley's chancellor, at a news confert ce Tuesday. "To the extent this lease us a less diverse campus, it dimin thes us."

Some opponents of affi mative action, or race-based admissions tools, said they, too, were disturbed by the drop-off but only because they said it proved their point that the school systems have been said it.

terns have been failing to prepare black and Hispanic applicants and that the

university system had been discrim-

mating against whites and Asians.

My own personal emotions are a

next fall's freshman class.

BERKELEY, California - In a

it might spark mass social unrest and economic hardship that would swell the flow of illegal migration of Indonesians into other Southeast Asian countries had prompted the IMF to be flexible in al-lowing Jakarta more time to apply some

of the reforms. After taking a survey of Indonesia's crops and food supply, the United Nations Development Program said Wednesday in Jakarta that some 7.5 million Indonesians could soon face food shortages and that the government would probably have to import a record 3.3 million tons of rice in 1998

Canadian officials said that Canada would provide Indonesia with aid worth 280 million Canadian dollars (\$197.3 million), mainly credits for imports of food and medicine. The U.S. last week promised \$54 million in food and medical assistance.

Lloyd Axworthy, foreign minister of Canada, said that Indonesia faced a lood shortage caused by drought, increased prices, distribution difficulties and a limited ability to import essential food-stuffs. He added that the aid should "belp address the human side of the economic crisis.

Soaring prices of staple food items and other essentials sparked riots in some parts of Indonesia in recent weeks that were directed mainly against the country's ethnic Chinese minority. which controls much of the retail trade.

The rupiah has lost about 70 percent of its value against the dollar since July. The drop has threatened to bankrupt many companies that borrowed beavily in foreign currencies, severely straining the banking system and bringing much of the country's business and trade to a

The government said Monday that minimum wages — which in 1997 were set at under one dollar a day — would be frozen because of the crisis. With inflation likely to reach 50 percent in 1998, this means that real incomes for

"We shouldn't become obsessed with the year-to-year numbers," said Terence Pell, senior counsel of the Washington-based Center for Indi-

vidual Rights, which has brought many cases against affirmative action

to courts around the country. "It is clear it will take a few years for the

systems to adjust. Diversity is im-

portant. The challenge is how to get it without focusing on skin color."

admissions to California state universities since Proposition 209 was

passed in November 1996. The ref-

erendum, which for undergraduate

admissions went into effect this year,

made California the only state to ban

the consideration of race, ethnicity

A federal appeals court has barred

the state universities of Texas from

doing the same, and other states, no-tably Michigan, are facing similar le-

gal challenges. While the California referendum

puses announced two weeks ago and at the state's business and law schools.

See MINORITIES, Page 10

It remains unclear what percentage

and sex in the public sector.

The figures are among the first on

California's Universities

Jettison Racial Diversity



Under tight security, Maurice Papon, center, leaving his house near Bordeaux on Wednesday to attend his trial for World War II crimes.

# After Hearing Papon, **Jury Starts to Deliberate**

War Crimes Defendant Makes His Final Plea

By Charles Trueheart Washington Post Service. . .

BORDEAUX -- Maurice Papon had his last chance on Wednesday to convince a French jury that he was not guilty of war crimes before a panel of behind closed doors to deliberate the

verdict.
Mr. Papon, 87, used his 40-minute courtroom privilege to attack the long-running trial here that has sought to establish his responsibility for the deportation of more than 1,500 French Jews to the German death camp at Auschwitz, Poland.

This is what is called a political trial." Mr. Papon said during a ram-bling soliloquy. "French law has been tortured in a desperate effort to prove a crime that was never committed."

His speech capped four days of closing arguments by the defense and six months of highly charged and

often conflicting testimony that has commanded headlines and dominated private conversation in France.

'In the absence of incontestable evidence, a judicial monster has been created," he said, "an unprecedented media bombardment of lies, insults opinion."

Mr. Papon, whose trial stirred a painful public confrontation with this country's wartime behavior, warned the jurors that their fellow citizens were watching and that their nation's

reputation hung in the balance.
"Be careful that France is not harmed by your verdict," he said. "There are many people outside our borders who would rejoice in the humiliation that my conviction would bring upon our nation by linking it to Nazi Germany in responsibility for Jewish genocide." He was then

See PAPON, Page 5

# Israel Clears Plan To Leave Lebanon

Alert Ordered After Killing

No Negotiation

By Serge Schmemann
New York Times Service

Beirut Balks:

By Joel Greenberg New York Times Service

JERUSALEM --- A man found dead near a car that exploded in the West Bank on Sunday was identified Wednesday as a suspecied bomb-maker from the Islamic group Hamas who was at the top of Israel's list of most wanted

militants.

The Israeli police said they were on high alert for possible revenge attacks by Harnas similar to those that followed the assassination of Mohammed Yahya Avvash, a Hamas bomb-maker known as "The Engineer" who was killed by a booby-trapped cellular phone in the Gaza Strip in January 1996.

After that slaying, widely attributed to Israel's Shin Bet security service, Hamas militants carried out a series of suicide attacks in Israel that killed more than 60 people, Abdel Aziz Rantisi, the most prom-

inent Hamas figure in Gaza, warned that there would be similar retribution now. "Hamas never leaves its members unavenged," he said. "The struggle

will snrely escalate. The police said that the man found dead on Sunday was Muhyiaddin Sharif, 32, and that he had been shot three times before the car blew up. His

body was dumped near the vehicle in Bituniya, outside the town of Ramallah, which is governed by Palestinians.

Israeli officials hold him responsible for a series of suicide attacks in Israel that billed coorse of people close carly 1996.

killed scores of people since early 1996.
Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu
of Israel denied responsibility for the
Sharif killing.
"I can tell you with certainty that
Israel had no part in this event," Mr.
Netanyhau said at a news conference. "I
don't know if this was a liquidation
operation. I have no idea."

operation, I have no idea."
A leaflet signed by the Qassam Brigades, the armed wing of Hamas, warned, "The murder will not pass without revenge that will bring sadness to every Zionist household and teach the Netanyahu government a lesson it will

Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader, said the incident was under investigation, but other Palestinian officials pointed a finger at Israel.

"If the information is true, it means that Israeli state terrorism and assassination sanctioned by the state con-tinues to be a policy of the government of Israel," said Nabil Shaath, a minister in the Palestinian cahinet.

The commander of Palestinian forces in the West Bank, Hajj Ismail Jaber, issued a statement calling the killing a crime and a "dangerous attempt to undermine Palestinian stability and secu-

See TERROR, Page 10

JERUSALEM --- Adding to a grow ing diplomatic effort to find a way out c is cosily military presence in souther Lebanon, Israel formally accepted o Wednesday a 20-year-old UN Securit Council resolution calling on it t withdraw forthwith" from Lebanes territory, but on the condition that Let anon assume control over the region an prevent its use for attacks on Israel.

Both Lebanon and Syria have publicl rejected any negotiations over the re-olution, arguing that the United Nation called for an unconditional withdrawal.

The decision by the Israeli cabine followed an intense debate within th government on ways to extract Israe forces from the buffer zone that Israe maintains in southern Lebanon with th help of a Lebanese militia called th South Lebanese Army.

That debate, in turn, followed grow ing pressure in Israel to end a conflic with the radical Islamic guerrillas o Hezbollah, which is taking a steady tol in Israeli lives.

The meaning of this decision is that Israel is expressing formally here for the first time, in a detailed and organized fashion, its seriousness and determi nation to leave Lebanon, linked to the required security arrangements," Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said.

Israeli officials and foreign diplomat: warned that Israeli readiness to embrace Resolution 425 was not likely to end the

conflict soon.

For one thing, there was no guarantee that the Lebanese government had the military capacity to secure the southerr region. The more serious obstacle is Syria, which effectively controls Lebanon, and which has made clear that is would end the conflict in southern Lebanon only in the context of a peace agreement that included the return of th: Golan Heights to Syria.

Early in his administration, Mr. Netanyahu floated the idea of a "Lebanon first' agreement, only to bave it flatly

There is nothing new in the Israeli position." Nabih Berri, speaker of the Lebanese Parliament, was quoted as saying. In Ahu Dhabi, the Lebanese president, Elias Hrawi, said at a news conference, "We will not negotiate for one second over Resolution 425, because if we did, then the Security Council resolution would become null."

Syria, which has 35,000 troops in

Lebanon, also dismissed the Israeli decision as a "maneuver," Agence France-Presse reported.

Despite such public opposition, the Israeli effort, led by Defense Minister

See LEBANON, Page 10

# Fuller Service for Full-Fare Fliers

By Laurence Zuckerman New York Times Service

NEW YORK - Last month, travelers paying full coach fare on Trans World Airlines began receiving white-glove service in St. Louis, Missouri. A special skycap now checks their bags at the cnrb, issuing a large, gilt-edged tag that is intended to ensure that the luggage will be the first off the plane.

also barred the consideration of sex. Elite fliers are also given a white ticket envelope—as opposed to the dark blue ones issued to hoi polloi admissions officials said they had never taken sex into account anyway so that TWA employees know to give them the "extra because of the large number of womlevel of customer service they deserve." And TWA scrapped a three-year effort to offer the most spacious en applying for admission.

The data made public on Tuesday mirror similar drops in most of the smaller University of California camcoach cabin in the industry to make room for more

'We have essentially moved that space from the back to the front, where it is made available to people who can pay for it," said Mark Abels, a TWA spokesman. There have long been clear class distinctions in the air, but the divisions are growing ever wider as airlines

invest millions of dollars to pamper their best cus-tomers, business travelers, enticing them with everything from more leg room to extra frequent-flier miles to fancier VIP lounges. Who loses out? In some cases, passengers with

discount tickets. "The back end of the plane has become a bus with wings," said Ivan Michael Schaeffer, president of

Woodside Travel Trust, a consortium of 132 travel [On scheduled European domestic flights, the dif-

ferences between passengers are less accentuated, partly because first class has all hut disappeared and partly because most leisure travelers use charter flights, industry specialists told the IHT.

[What business travelers get in Europe in exchange for a higher fare is flexibility, they said. These travelers can change tickets, carry on more luggage, and perhaps be served a hot meal and drinks instead of a

See CLASS, Page 10

### In First Class, Friendlier Skies

American Airlines recently began weighting the miles it awards passengers looking to qualify for its new top-tier Executive Platinum frequentflier status. It takes 100,000 miles to qualify and depends on how much is paid for each ticket.

Here is how many miles passengers in different classes would earn on a 4,950-mile round-trip flight from New York's Kennedy Airport to Los Angeles.

	WEIGHTING	FARE	MILES EARNED
First class	1.50	\$3,688	7,425
Business class	1.25	2,830	6,188
Full coach	1.00	1,836	4,950
Discount coach	0.50	298	2,475
Source: Company report	ts	The	New York Times

# Yeltsin Defuses Tension With Deputies

MOSCOW - Russia's oppositionled Parliament pulled back from the brink of confrontation with President Boris Yeltsin on Wednesday after he unexpectedly invited its leaders to crisis

Deputies in the State Duma, Parliament's lower house, had been planning

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	Bahrain
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to adopt a resolution Wednesday calling nomination Friday, but it was far from for a roundtable with Mr. Yeltsin and for certain that Mr. Kiriyenko could win its the president to suspend his choice of prime minister-designate, Sergei Kiriyenko, 35.

But they abandoned their demand to suspend Mr. Kiriyenko an hour after a Kremlin spokesman said the president had invited the heads of the Duma and the upper house, the Federation Council, to talks Thursday.

Sergei Yastrzhembsky, a Kremlin spokesman, said, "The president's invitation to hold such a meeting practically in the format of the 'Big Four' can be viewed as President Yeltsin's response to the appeal by the Federation Council and State Duma to hold consultations ahead of voting for Sergei

Kiriyenko. The "Big Four" are Mr. Yeltsin, Gennadi Seleznyov, the Duma speaker, Yegor Stroyev, the Federation Council speaker, and the prime minister. Mr. Kiriyenko will also be at the talks Thursday, but is not yet formally prime minister.
The Duma is scheduled to debate his

of talks. The president is empowered to dissolve the Duma and call new elections if it rejects his candidate in three separate votes. Mr. Yasuzhembsky said Mr. Yeltsin's decision to hold the talks at his residence outside Moscow, normally reserved for meetings with foreign lead-

approval, even after Mr. Yeltsin's offer

ers, was a sign of serious intent. The Dama, which has used the roundtable option before to avoid a showdown with Mr. Yeltsin, evidently took the hint.

Within the hour it voted in favor of a Communist appeal calling for talks involving more than the "Big Four," but dropped its demand that Mr. Kiriyenko's candidacy be suspended.

Mr. Seleznyov told the chamber after the vote, "This will be a good mandate for me at tomorrow's meeting, where we might announce plans for holding

See RUSSIA, Page 5



BIG BANG - A Tokyo merchant testing a Singapore dollar Wednesday, as Japanese stores began accepting foreign currency as part of the deregulation of the country's financial system. Page 11.

Opinion .. .. Pages 6-7. Sports .... The IHT on-line www.iht.com

#### AGENDA

### South Africa Denies Claims of Coup Plot

PRETORIA (Reuters) — A military intelligence report claiming a coup plot against President Nelson Mandela was "frandulent and of no substance," a South African government spokesman said Wednesday.

Joel Netshitenzhe, the spokesman, said a judicial commission had found no truth to a report that had named senior

#### **Last Stop for Clinton:** Slave House on Goree

The last stop of President Bill Clinton's 12-day trip to Africa will be a visit Thursday afternoon to Goree Island, where millions of Africans spent their last hours on the continent chained in cubicles before beginning the ghastly, and for many fatal, voyage to the New World. The visit will bring to a climax the politics of contrition Mr. Clinton has practiced in Africa. Page 10.

military officers and officials close to Mr. Mandela's governing African National Congress as being behind the plot. One of those named in the report was Mr. Mandela's former wife, Winnie Madikizela-Mandela. Mr. Netshitenzhe said Mr. Mandela was studying the report and would make a public statement in the next few days.

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	S&P 500	
+57.55	8857.36	8799.81
	Wednesday @ 3 P.M.	previous close
M	The Dow	
FF	6.2065	6.1905
Yen	133,675	133.13
Pound	1.6712	1.6725
<u>PM</u>	1.8524	1.848
New York	Wednesday @ 3 P.M.	previous close
	The Dollar	

More than 200 expatriates

recently turned out for a

# As Visas Expire, a 2d British Exodus From Hong Kong

By Mark Landler New York Times Service

ONG KONG — Drop into Post 97, a bar and restaurant in the heart of Hong Kong's teeming night-life district, and it still feels a lot like pre-1997. A bartender draws pints of British lager while

British waitresses serve sausages and sticky tof-fee pudding to a mostly Western clientele.

But that will soon change as Post 97 and other watering holes for Hong Kong's expariates face the loss of most of their Princip Norded Hong April, four months before Britain handed Hong Kong back to China, British residents here were granted a one-year extension of their visas. On

Tuesday, those visas expired en masse, and thousands of Britons must prepare to leave this former Crown Colony. It amounts to a second ex-

odus of the British out of giant 'leaving party.' Hong Kong. But these dis-possessed Britons are of a distinctly different stripe than the senior civil servants and colonial administrators who left

Hong Kong last July, hard on the heels of the departing British governor, Christopher Patten. The British leaving this time are generally young. They work as bartenders, waitresses and

short-order cooks in pubs and restaurants.
Unlike older, more established Britons, whose visas are routinely extended, the young British are vulnerable because their jobs can easily be filled by local Chinese. To make matters worse, many of them are also transients — backpackers who stopped in Hong Kong to make some quick money before setting off for Thailand or Australia.

But others had put down deep roots in Hong

Kong and desperately wanted to stay. For them, this has been a time of anguish.

"I view Hong Kong very much as my home," said Samantha Newstead, 30, a graphic artist from London, who has supplemented her income by waiting on tables at Post 97. "I know I don't have a divine right to live bere, but it's really strange to have to fight for the right to stay." Like nearly 9,000 of her compatriots, Ms. Newstead has applied to extend her visa and work permit. The government has approved about half of such applications filed from February 1997 to the end of January. But the 4,000 other applications are still pending, and Hong Kong's immigration Department has told res-taurant owners it is unlikely to approve those for unskilled workers, like waitress

Ms. Newstead hopes her credentials as a graphic artist will tip the balance in her favor. But with Hong Kong suffering from the Asian economic flu, design work has been scarce and Ms. Newstead subsists on restaurant wages.

"I want to grab the immigration people and say, 'Look, I have a home with a garden and cats and dogs,' "said Ms. Newstead, who moved to Hong Kong in 1994 and lives on Lantau, an island just west of Hong Kong that is home to many

young British. Lamma Island, another spit of land south of Hong Kong, is so heavily populated hy young British

people that the waterfront there feels more like Brighton than the Sonth China Sea. These days, though, the bulletin boards on the island are plastered with advertisements for apartment rentals and secondhand furniture. One ad offers advice on how to compose a visa application. On a recent weekend, more than 200 people turned out for a giant

OME YOUNG people are so bent on staying that they simply flout the visa restrictions. Tom, a jovial 32-year-old from Scotland who refused to give his last name, works illegally as a baker at a Hong Kong restaurant. Despite the threat of six months in jail for working without a visa, Tom says he believes the government will not go too far in hunting down

people like him. "They'd be slitting their own throats," he said. "We keep the place going."

That is exaggerating matters, of course, Britain bas only the third-largest expatriate population in Hong Kong, after the Philippines and the United States. And it has declined to 28,000 from 31,400 in the nine months since the handover. Hong Kong's new immigration policy simply treats



Britain's new envoy to Hong Kong, Sir Andrew Burns, admiring the view from his 36th-floor apartment. 'You have only to look from this balcony to see how Hong Kong has changed,' he told Reuters.

Britons the same as citizens of any other country who seek to live and work in the city.

The British-style pubs are adjusting to the new face of Hong Kong. Post 97 and its neighbors now actively recruit local people. But some restaurateurs said Hong Kong Chinese balked at serving a predominantly Western clientele. And they fret that replacing all the British with Chinese will subdue the boisterous atmosphere that transforms Hong Kong's night-life district, Lan Kwai Fong, into an outdoor carnival each weekend. Chinese bartenders and waitresses are highly competent, the restaurant owners say, but

St. Anton

Lake Louise Whistler

France Alpe d'Huez

they do not banter with enstorners.

Mad Dogs, which styles itself as a Scottish pub, has gone so far as to import students from botel-training schools in Scotland. Because the bar provides room, board and some training, they can work in Hong Kong on student visas.

"There is a case to be made about ethnic authenticity," said Christopher Hammerbeck, the chairman of the British Chamber of Commerce here. "I know this bierkeller in Beijing where lovely Chinese girls serve beer. But they just don't fill a dirnd! the same way as German

# **Heavy Rains Douse Fires** In Brazilian Rain Forest

BRASILIA — The first heavy rains in six months fell Tuesday on the northwestern Brazilian state of Roraima. dampening the dried rain forests and raising hopes of an end to the wildfires that have raged out of control in the area for three months.

Alan Suassuna, press spokesman for the Federal Indian Bureao in Boa Vista, 2,500 kilometers (1,550 miles) northwest of Brasilia, the capital, estimated that the rains had extinguished 80 percent to 90 percent of the fires.

He said an accurate assessment would only be possible Wednesday, after the army, now in charge of the firefighting operation, had flown over

Newly available satellite photos indicate that about 34,200 square kilometers (13,200 square miles), or about 15 percent of the state, bas been devastated by the fires.

The biazes have spread into the Yanomami reservation and into the reservations of several other tribes. Indian reservations cover about 55 percent of

Roraima state.

A. Bill Harris

Roraima state.

Carlos Pereira Monteiro, bead of a United Nations' team of firefighting specialists that arrived Monday, called the fires "an environmental disaster without precedent on this planet."

About 100 men from Brazil, Venezuela and Argentina have been fighting the fires, the office of the Roraima governor said.

"In general terms, the rain has been

"In general terms, the rain has been of great help and has reduced the number of fires," said Colonel Jorge Fraxe of the Brazilian Army, a spokesman for the firefighting effort. But all the troops remain in the area and they will

# Hong Kong Under China: U.S. Satisfied

WASHINGTON — The nited States is largely sat-fied with how China has ted toward Hong Kong in the first nine months that the ormer British colony has een under Beijing's control, cording to American offi-

Although there were some ises concerning the rule of w and press freedoms that ore watching, an official uid Tuesday that it was retty marginal stuff. "The hinese are behaving better an I expected," he added.

The official described Beijing as largely "invis-ible" and exerting "no direct pressure, or next to none" on Hong Kong, which on July 1 became an autonomous region within China.

The State Department was due to present to Congress on ednesday its annual report on Hong Kong.

The report provides the basis for an annual coogressional review of the Hong Kong-United States Policy

arate from the rest of China. Hong Kong has status as a

separate customs area and also has a separate extradition treaty and commercial agree-ments with the United States. An American official said "the gist of the report is that

things have gone smoothly, but there bave been problems," such as the way the post-colonial Legislative

Council was being handled. Opposition and humanrights groups in Hong Kong Act, under which Hong Kong enjoys special relations with Washington as a territory sep-

Beijing recognized that Hong Kong, which brought in millions of dollars in hard currency and was a gateway for economic activity. crucial to China's future, officials said. In addition, Chinese offi-

cials saw the region as a model for future reunification with Taiwan and realized Hong Kong's transition was being closely watched by the world, U.S. officials said.

which drastically reduce the

public franchise and the pros-

pects of opposition parties.

Hong Kong with a clear re-cognition that things were

not all perfect. U.S. officials said China's

approach to Hong Kong was motivated by self-interest, not

by a conviction that allowing

autonomy for the region was

inherently a good thing.

Sources in Hong Kong said Monday that political lohhyists in Hong Kong have asked the U.S. Congress to look into recent threats to the rule of law, freedom of the press and electoral arrangements in the territory.

A series of incidents has touched off heated political quarrels and raised fears in Hong Kong that its autonomy is being eroded.

Opposition groups Sunday assailed a bill drafted by the post-colonial government that would exempt Chinese state bodies here from some Hong Kong laws. They said this ran against the Basic Law, Hong Kong's new constitution.

A U.S. official said that when one considered the range of actions China could bave taken to weaken seriously Hong Kong's anton-omy and freedoms, "these are not capital offenses."

#### Correction

A front-page article on Italy's eligibility to join the rency in Wednesday's editions gave an incorrect title for an Italian official, Carlo Azeglio Ciampi. He is the treasury minister.

> Guy de Panafieu and Bull's Executive Committee have the deepest regret in announcing the death of Dr. Khaled Marrel

hey sent inter consolences to his intuity.

Khaled Marrei, engineering graduate of the University of Alexandria and Doctor of the Pederal Institute of echnology of Zurich, joined Groupe Bull as head of the Enterprise Information

#### TRAVEL UPDATE

WEEKEND SKI REPORT

**BA's Low-Cost Airline Sets Routes** LONDON (AFP) - British Airways' low-cost airline, Go, But the American official said Wednesday that its first flights would be from London to said that on balance, the re-port gave a positive assess-ment of China's handling of Rome, Milan and Copenhagen — three destinations not served by the hudget-market leaders, EasyJet and Ryanair.

"We are hoping to encourage people who have not pre-viously traveled far in Europe to fly with us," said Barbara Cassani, the Go chief executive. She disputed a legal claim hy EasyJet that BA was abusing its monopoly position by introducing the low-cost carrier.

New Radars On at 2 India Airports NEW DELHI (AP) — The international airports serving the surroundings of the fairy-tale castle.

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Bombay and New Delhi began operating a new air-traffic control system on Wednesday to make plane landings and takeoffs safer, the system manufacturer, Raytheon Co., said. It includes advanced radar and flight-data processing that identifies aircraft and provides warnings of possible col-lisions or dangerously low altitudes.

The Philippines Air Transportation Office said it would allow Cebn Pacific Airways to fly again, after the Feb. 2 crash of one of its planes that killed 104 people.

A plan for a 250-bed hotel opposite the Neuschwanstein castle has been rejected by the Schwangau, Germany, town council which was besieged by objections that it would ruin

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# Lady Lestor, Politician, Dies at 66

New York Times Service

efiance of her government's olicies and who struck a low on behalf of single mothrs when she won the right to dopt two children on her wn, died in a London hospice riday. She had been suffering four-year break, until 1997. om motor neurone disease.

Lady Lestor had two great auses in her life: the fight gainst racism and the Set.

Versatile Inventor gainst racism and the fight or the rights of children. She was briefly chairman

LONDON - Baroness ister in several Labour Govestor of Eccles, 66, a cru- emments in the early 1970s, ading British politician who but was perhaps ton uncompoke out against apartheid in promising in her beliefs to rise to a higher office.

> London University with a diploma in sociology. She was elected to Parliament in 1966, where she remained, with a

NEW YORK (NYT) -

Lady Lestor graduated from

Athelstan Spilhaus, 86, a geof the Labour Party in 1977 physicist and meteorologist itary projects.

78 and served as a junior min- who invented a device that measures temperatures at the depths of the sea and who became the first U.S. representative on the executive board of Unesco, died Monday at his bome in Middle-

burg, Virginia. A creator of untold numbers other devices, including 3,000 varieties of children's toys, Mr. Spilhaus listed his occupation in his later years as retired genius.

Throughout his life be had been involved in complex scientific, mechanical, educational, architectural and mil-

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DEATH NOTICE

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Dr. Khaled Marret
Chargé de Mission for Groupe Bull
General Management and former Vice
President, Enterprise Information
Systems Division.
They send their condolences to his family.

Systems Division in February 1996. Thanks to his experience in servers and telecommunications equipment, pained in various countries during his 23 years with NCR and ATT he had a wide knowledge of the major and was a recognized expert in the international field. Groupe Bull greatly benefited from his expense.

# Today To Forecast for Friday through Sunday, as provided by

WEATHER

North America
There may be showers in Asserting from will spread Made with rain in Beiging Friendly; otherwise, partly suriny, dry and seasonably cool in the Northeast and New England shough Sunday. The Southeast will have rain as far north as Washington, Greece on north into and furning maker Soak-northward across tha Plains. Cool in the Southwest.

Asserting from will spread Made with rain in Beiging Friedry, then warm with some day, then warm with some sunshine over the weekend. Plenty of sun in Saoul, cool Friedry, then warming up by Sunday. Sunny and dry in Tokyo and ituming maker Soak-northward across tha Plains. Cool in the Southwest.

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Middle East

Abu Dhabi 98/102 28/71 s 38/102 21/70 s Behru 19/86 9/45 pc 14/57 bl45 pc Corro 28/62 9/45 pc 14/57 bl45 s Demograp 22/71 6/45 pc 16/91 3/37 pc Jerusalem 21/70 5/41 s 14/57 3/37 pc Lucer 25/86 13/55 c 3/4/51 11/52 s Figeth 34/63 16/61 s 34/63 17/62 s

#### THE AMERICAS

# "2 Clinton Troopers Got Cash After Disclosures Republican Contributor Paid Each \$6,700 After Their Womanizing Allegations

By Peter Baker Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON - A wealthy Republican contributor paid \$6,700 each in 1994 to two former gubernatorial bodyguards who went public with allegations that Bill Clinton used them to meet women, sources have con-

Peter Smith, a Chicago investment banker who since 1989 has contributed \$150,000 to the Republican Party and to causes connected to the speaker of the House, Newt Gingrich, made the payments to the state troopers, Roger Perry and Larry Patterson, a few months after they were quoted by the Los Angeles Times and the American Spectator magazine about sas law that existed for "a year or according to the sources.

Mr. Smith also paid \$11,600 to two lawyers who helped get the troopers' story out: \$5,000 to Cliff Jackson, a Clinton foe, and \$6,600 to Lynn Davis, a former director of the Arkansas

state police, said the sources. last week. On Tuesday, the Chicago a month later, Mr. Jackson said.

The efforts to create the whi tog be paid another \$50,000 to a vari- blower fund were disclosed in the ety of lawyers, public relations consultants and a reporter as part of an on Dec. 21, 1993. and-Clinton research project in 1992. That article ci

Washington Post Service

has spent nearly \$30 million inves-

tigating an assortment of allegations

against President Bill Clintoo and

Hillary Rodham Clinton, according to

The congressional watchdog said

in a report Tuesday that Mr. Starr, the

independent counsel, spent

\$3,967,888 on his Whitewater inves-

tigation from April 1 to Sept. 30, 1997, which brings total spending for

mooths, citing estimates as high as

\$40 million, but the GAO's figures -

which are six months behind - are

the only official accounting.

\$29,599,059.

the General Accounting Office.

WASHINGTON -- Kenneth Starr

the American Spectator article that first mentioned "Paula" and led to establish what the lawyer called "a the Paula Jones sexual harassment whistle-hlower insurance policy."

A Whistle Blower Fund' William C. Rempel of the Los

Angeles Times added According to Cliff Jackson, an attorney for the troopers, Mr. Smith's contributions were deposited into the as a consequence. Troopergate Whistle Blower Fund, a legal entity established under Arkan-Mr. Clintoo's alleged womanizing, two." Mr. Jackson said the fund ultimately raised about \$40,000 that was divided among the troopers and

their attomeys. The lawyer added that Mr. Smith started the fund with a \$5,000 dona-tion in February 1994, about two The New York Observer broke the story of Mr. Smith's 1994 payments last week. On Tuesday the Critical in the fine about two months after the Troopergate stories broke. Another \$20,000 Smith donation was deposited into the fund about

> The efforts to create the whistleoriginal Los Angeles Times account

all, taxpayers have spent \$35,672,341

mooths behind, the report does not

include the costs of investigating al-

legations involving the president and

Mr. Clintoo's allies have attacked on the Fiske and Starr investigations,

Mr. Starr's spending in recent according to the GAO.

That article cited Mr. Jackson's talk-show appearances and in an opeo

Smith in 1992 for expenses in regoing on the record with their alrightist effort to "get Clintoo." searching a book he did not write; the legations against Mr. Clinton. The next year, Mr. Smith tipped him to the story reported that Mr. Jackson had troopers' story, leading him to write received verbal agreement from "an

> On Tuesday, Mr. Jackson reiter- end in an unsubstantiated allegation ated that the troopers received no payment for coming forward and, at the

no guarantees of help if they lost jobs At the time, a group of troopers already had met for a series of interviews with the Los Angeles Times. But Mr. Jackson said later that he became concerned that "a liberal paper" like the Los Angeles Times might not publish stories critical of

servative writer. Mr. Brock confirmed to the Chicago Sun-Times that he learned about the troopers from Mr. Smith in the fall of 1993, Mr. Brock then contacted

Mr. Clinton, so he "put out the word"

that he wanted to meet with a con-

Mr. Jackson, he said. Mr. Brock recently apologized to Mr. Clinton for his role in the Troopergate articles, saying in a series of

# Starr's Bill Before Lewinsky: \$30 Million

question the investigation's cost. According to the GAO, the four Starr has spent twice as much to independent counsels appointed to investigate Mr. Clinton and top-level officials in his administration spent \$8,576,816 during the six-month period that ended Sept. 30, 1997. Altogether, the four have spent \$53,125,650. investigate the president than the FBI spent investigating the crash of TWA.
Flight 800, which killed 232 people."
he said. "It's outly, to put it mildly."
Mr. Carville said he included the

expenses of Mr. Starr's predecessor \$53,135,650. when he attacks the cost of the investigation. A former Whitewater special prosecutor, Robert Fiske, speot slightly more than \$6 million 1997, which brings total spending for before an appeals court panel replaced the first three years of his inquiry to him with Mr. Starr in August 1994. In

Espy, a former agriculture secretary, and Henry Cisneros, a former housing secretary.

Senator Robert Torricelli, Democrat of New Jersey, has asked both the former White House intern, Monica

Because the tabulations are six James Carville, a Clintoo adviser a former White House intern, Monica by Congress in the aftermath of Watergate two decades ago.

The reporter, David Brock, confirmed that the troopers were "com-that he received \$5,000 from Mr. pletely vulnerable to reprisals" for that he was part of an orchestrated

■ Judge Warns Jones's Lawyers

Francis X. Clines of The New York Times reported from Washington; The judge in the Paula Jones case has issued a warning to Mrs. Jones's but that Mr. Jackson had not obtained lawyers for publicly identifying a a formal contract. "Jane Doe" witness over the week-

of sexual assault by Mr. Clinton.

Threatening sanctions if any law-yer in the sun violated disclosure strictures. Judge Susan Webber Wright of Federal District Court time the stories were published, had ordered an end Tuesday to the pretrial salvos of press releases that have made selective, sensational parts of the case public in advance of the trial. which is tentatively scheduled for May 27 in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Judge Wright noted that the filing of the Jane Doe allegation was left in a court dropoff box in Pine Bluff. Arkansas, on Saturday, when she was not there to review it, and simultaneously publicized by the Jones le-gal tearn. It touched off another hurst of headlines of sexual allegations against President Clinton.

The assault charge, made public by way of unsworn, unsigned third-party hearsay, was released despite a sworn affidavit from the Jane Doe witness that the 20-year-old allegation was untrue. Mr. Clinton's lawyer, Robert Bennett, denounced the filing in a complaint to the court as a salacious publicity stunt.

Judge Wright warned the lawyers to make no future pleadings public until they are "in the hands of this

And as she waded through the hundreds of pages of final court filings, the judge said she was "on the verge of ruling" on the next key question in the case; whether the civil damages suit Among those being investigated in should be thrown out because of lack of addition to the Clintons are Mike evidence, as the presideot's defenders

Reno for a more detailed accounting of Mr. Starr's spending.

Spending hy independent counsels has been a flash point for criticism of the controversial law that was record. fourth appearance before this grand jury and the third for Ms. Scott.

#### POLITICAL NOTES



A BIRD OF SPRING - Donna Shalala, U.S. secretary of health, throwing out the baseball season's ceremonial first pitch on Tuesday in Baltimore.

#### House Barely Passes Disaster Relief Plan

WASHINGTON — By a thin margin, the House has passed a special \$2.9 hillion disaster relief and defense spending bill, cutting domestic programs despite the threat of a presidential veto.

The emergency appropriations bill did not include \$18 hillioo sought by the administration for the International Monetary Fund and included in a peoding Senate measure. The House has put IMF funding in a second hill to be taken up after the spring recess, which begins Thursday.
The House vote was 212 to 208, with 17

Republicans crossing party lines to oppose the measure Tuesday. The hill must go to a conference to be reconciled with Senate

The Appropriations Committee chairman, Bob Livingstoo. Republican of Louisiana, acknowledged that the narrowness of the margin presaged heavy going in efforts to get the Senate to accept the House's insistence oo offsetting the expenditures with domestic spending cuts. The Senate's bill has no offsets.

The hill provides \$2.3 hillion to maintain peacekeeping operations in Iraq and Bosnia and for other defense speoding and \$575 million in disaster assistance for damages associated with El Niño storms,

spending hy cutting \$2.2 hillion in low-income housing reotal subsidies and \$700

million from previously hudgeted airport construction funds, hilingual education programs and AmeriCorps, President Bill Clintoo's national service volunteers.(WP)

### Drinking Bill Stalls

WASHINGTON — A campaign hy traffic safety groups and their congressional allies to pass a lough anti-drunken driving provision has suffered a setback as the House Rules Committee refused to allow the measure to be offered as an amendment to the highway hill

The measure in dispute would require all states to lower the legal blood-alcohol limit to 80 milligrams of alcohol per decilner of blood or lose as much as 10 percent of their federal highway funds.

The Senate approved it as part of its version of the highway hill last month, but the House Transportation Committee's chairman, Bud Shuster, Republican of Pennsylvania, left it out of the House bill. The liquor and restaurant industries have mounted a well-financed effort to keep it

#### Quote/Unquote

Al Kamen, a Washingtoo Post columnist, begging his readers for mercy: "O.K., O.K. Sidney Blumenthal's book had a foreword, Faced with a revolt from the House Republican rank and file, leaders offset the spending by cutting \$2.2 hillion in low-writing. It looked good either whey."

# Schoolgirl's Experiment Casts Doubt on an Alternative Medical Treatment

and leading Starr critic, continues to Lewinsky.

NEW YORK -Two years ago, Emily Rosa of Loveland, Colorado, designed and carried out an experiment that challenges a leading treatment in alternative medicine. Her study, reported Wednesday in the Journal of the American Medical Association, has thrown the field into turnult. Emily is 11. She did the experiment for her

elemeotary school's science fair. The technique she challenges is therapeutic touch, in which healers manipulate what they call the human energy field by passing their hands over a patient's body without actually touching the patient. The method is practiced in healing centers and medical centers throoghout the world, and is taught at prominent universities and schools of oursing.

Tens of thousands of people have been trained to treat patients through the use of therapentic

LUEHEN

the newsstand price.

But Emily asked a very simple questioo: Could therapeutic touch practitioners actually detect a human energy field?

It was a question critics of alternative medicine had asked before. But only one practitioner had agreed to sobmit to a test, said James Randi, a magician who conducted the test. Emily, however, was able to recruit 21 prac-

titioners. Her mother, Linda Rosa, a nurse who is among the critics of therapeutic touch, said she believed Emily succeeded because practitioners were oot threatened by a 9-year-old girl.

Emily designed an experiment in which she and

the healer were separated by a screen. Then Emily decided, by flipping a coin, whether to put her hand over the healer's left hand or the right hand. The healer was asked to decide where Emily's hand was hovering. If the healer could detect

healers did no better than chance. They identified the correct location of Emily's hand just 44 percent of the time; if they had guessed at random, they would have been right about half the time.

Emily wrote her study with her mother, a member of the National Therapeutic Touch Study Gronp, a group hased in Loveland that question the method. The study's authors also included Larry Sarner of the Therapeutic Touch Stody Group and Dr. Stephen Barrett, board chairman of Quackwatch in Allentown, Pennsylvania, a nonprofit group that is putting information about questiooable medical prac-

tices on the Internet. The report on the study is accompanied by a note from Dr. George Lundberg, editor of the journal. In it, Dr. Lundberg writes that "practitioners should disclose these results to patients,

touch. Its practitioners insist that the human energy field, he or she should be energy field is real and that anyone can be trained to feel it.

Emily's human energy field, he or she should be third-party payers should question whether they should pay for this procedure, and patients should to feel it.

Dr. Krieger says that since she developed the able to discern where Emily's hand was.

In 280 tests involving the 21 practitioners, the save their money unless or until additional hooest. experimentation demonstrates an actual effect."

Dr. Luodberg said the journal's statisticians thought the study was well dooe, "They were amazed by its simplicity and hy the clarity of its results," he said.

Practitioners hardly agree. "I do hope it's an April Fool's joke," said Dr. Dolores Krieger, an emeritus professor of oursing at New York University who is a developer of therapeutic touch. In her book, "Accepting Your Power to Heal," published in 1993, Dr. Krieger said the field felt like "warm foam."

Practitioners of therapeutic touch say that paticots who are ill have hot spots or cold spots in their fields or areas that feel tingly. By "rebalancing" a person's field, practitioners say they can calm colicky babies, relieve symptoms

of Alzheimer's disease, treat cancer and more.

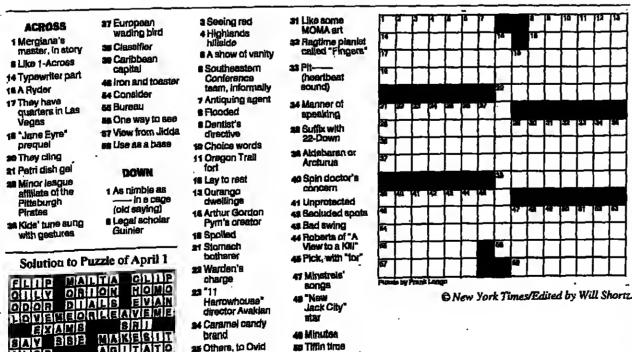
have gone oo to train thousands more. The method has been also the subject of numerous doctoral dissertations and postdoctoral studies.

"It works," she said, adding that Emily Rosa completely misunderstood what the nature of

basic research is." Another practitioner of therapeutic touch, Marilee Tolin, who teaches the method at colleges and universities throughout the country and who treats patients at the Healing Center in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, said Emily's study was poorly conceived. Practitioners, Ms. Tolin said, rely oo more than just touch to sense the human energy field. They also use "the sense of in-mition and even a sense of sight," she said.

But other researchers say there is no reliable evidence that practitioners of therapeutic touch can beal patients.

#### **CROSSWORD**



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#### Away From **Politics**

 A black man, Lemrick Nelson Jr., 22, was sentenced to 19 and a half years in prison for the fatal stahhing of a Jew-ish scholar, Yankel Rosenbaum, during a race riot in Brooklyn's Crowo Heights neighborhood in 1991. (AP)

 The ratio of boys to girls born in the United States and Canada dipped slightly be-tween 1970 and 1990, and a study suggests that such en-vironmental factors as prenatal exposure to pesticides may explain the change. (AP)

· A shipyard worker was

crushed to death and another trapped by an aircraft elevator on the aircraft carrier John F. Kennedy at the Mayport Naval Station in Jacksonville. Florida. The elevator lifts planes from the ship's hangar bay to the flight deck. (AP)

 The Federal Communications Commission is putting a new 877 prefix in place for toll-free calls starting April 5. It will join the existing 800 and 888 numbers.

### How can manufacturers reduce the costs of development and production?

Don't miss the eighth in a series of sponsored pages in the IHT on electronic business.

April 20

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PHNOM PENH - Hundreds of supporters and opponents of Prince Norodom Ranariddh battled with rocks and sticks on a boulevard in the city center Wednesday in the sharpest confrontation since the prince's return from exile this week.

Riot policemen were unable to prevent intermittent clashes that erupted throughout the day near the Hotel Le Royal where the prince has stayed since Monday. He returned to the country nine months after being ousted as co-prime minister in a conp by Hun Sen.

The prince's return, to take part in elections scheduled for July 26, came after international pressure on Mr. Hun Sen aimed at ensuring a fair vote.

In an interview, Prince Ranariddh urged his backers to remain nonviolent. 'Please don't do any counterdemonstration that would give anyone a pretext to not let me stay longer in our country and stand for election," he said.

Hundreds of police officers armed with assault rifles and riot sticks dis-persed a crowd of 500 Ranariddh supporters outside the hotel in the morning.

The supporters had been angered by the arrival of some 60 oppocents of the prince. Since last weekend, officials loyal to Mr. Hun Sen have paid or ordered people to protest the arrival of the prince. The protesters carried banners echoing Mr. Hun Sen's contention that Prince Ranariddh sbould pay for an estimated \$54 million in damages to the city during the July coup. Most of the damage was caused by fighting and

looting by Mr. Hun Sen's soldiers.
The Ranariddh supporters grabbed the posters and burned them.

The Hun Sen-controlled riot police-

men then dispersed Prince Ranariddh's supporters, some of whom shouted, "Long live Prince Ranariddh!"

The groups returned in the afternoon, however, near the hilltop temple for which Phnom Penh is named.

About 200 protesters fought an equal number of Ranariddh supporters along one of the capital's main streets with rocks and clubs. At least one Ranariddh backer was severely beaten.

#### ■ Khmer Rouge Set for Offensive

Thousands of bard-line Khmer Rouge guerrillas and their followers who fled to the Cambodian-Thai border last week have returned to their base to fight a rebel faction, Reuters reported from Sisaket oo Wednesday, quoting

Thai Army officers.

About 7,000 guerrillas and civilians loyal to the hard-line commander Ta Mok had fled to the Sangum Pass near the Thai border last week. They were fleeing Khmer Ronge defectors who had launched an assault on the guerrilla had launched an assault on the guerrilla group's base at Anloog Veng — the last major stronghold for hard-liners in the Maoist group — about 15 kilometers (9 miles) from the Thai border.

But that number bad dropped to about

4,000 as bard-line guerrillas and their families had regrouped and launched a counteroffensive, Major General Wivat Satarak of the Thai Army said after

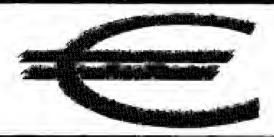


Hun Sen supporters beating a boy in Phnom Penh on Wednesday as they clashed with Ranariddh loyalists.

The International Herald Tribune will produce

EUROPE, THE EURO

a Special Report on May 2, on



# AND YOU

N MAY 2, European Prime Ministers and Finance Ministers will meet in Brussels to set the seal on one of the most daring and farreaching monetary experiments in history - European economic and monetary union. At that meeting, up to 11 nations will be selected as founding members of EMU and they will agree to replace their national currencies with a single, new currency - the euro - and hand over their monetary policies to a new European Central Bank.

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Whatever one's views, the reality of economic and monetary union beginning in January is apt to set in motion a new dynamic that contains surprises for everyone.

You have heard a lot from the politicians, but to help you get your own, independent grip on Europe's new reality, don't miss this Special Report on May 2, the day the crucial summit gets under way.

For a complete synopsis and information on advertising, contact your local representative or Bill Mahder at the IHT in Paris at: +33 1 41 43 93 78; fax: +33 1 41 43 92 13 or e-mail: supplements@iht.com

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### Plea Backfires On Malaysian

KUALA LUMPUR — A Malaysian appeals court, hearing an opposition fig-ure's appeal of a fine in a sedition case. not only refused to overturn the con-viction but also sentenced the defendant

to 18 months in prison.

Judge Gopal Sri Ram said that the three-judge panel had dismissed appeals by Lim Guan Eng, a member of Parliament and national chairman of the Democratic Action Party, Mr. Lim had been convicted of sedition after he published a pamphlet in 1995 that prosecutors said contained false information on a service of the published as a second limited by the published as a published as a second limited by the published as a publish

ecutors said contained false information on a sex scandal involving a schoolgirl and a former government chief minister.

At issue on Wednesday were three appeals, two hy Mr. Lim and one by the state prosecution. Mr. Lim sought to have the conviction overturned or, failing that, the fine of 15,000 ringgit (\$4,160) reduced. The prosecution sought a stiffer penalty.

The judge said the panel set aside the fine as being too light hut authorized bail of 20,000 ringgit. The court also stayed the prison sentence, giving Mr.

stayed the prison sentence, giving Mr.
Lim the opportunity to lodge a fresh
appeal with the Federal Court.

It's time for the court to send a clear

Under Malaysian law, a lawmaker is later this year.

disqualified if sentenced to a year in jail, or a 2,000 ringgit fine. Amnesty International said last year

that the charges against Mr. Lim were "politically motivated, designed to intimidate dissenting voices and to limit debate on an issue of public concern."

#### **INDONESIA:** \$3 Billion Needed

Continued from Page 1 many Indonesian workers will be halved, ecocomists said.

Since official minimum wages, which vary from region to region in Indooesia, were below subsistence levels, the freeze raised doubts about the government commitment to improve workers' welfare. The Jakarta Post said Wednesday. "It is a major setback after years of hard work to try to ensure that workers get their minimum fair share," the paper

Medicines in Indonesia are in short supply or prohibitively expensive be-cause of their imported conteot. So, too, is hospital and medical equipment, in-cluding soch basic items as syringes.

A withering drooght caused by the El Niño weather pattern has cut agricultural ootput, incloding rice, which is the staple food of Indooesia's 200 million people,

The unusually dry conditions have caused forest fires, lit by farmers and plantation companies to clear land, to rage out of control since July, especially in Indonesia's East Kalimantan province on the island of Borneo.

Fires there and in parts of Sumatra blanketed much of Southeast Asia in smog-laden smoke for several months "It's time for the court to send a clear signal that we will not tolerate an attack on the judiciary," Judge Gopal Sri Ram said.

State in 1997, disrupting transport and tourism and causing health problems. There are fears that northerly winds will result in a recurrence of the smog blanket

As hundreds of fires burned in East Kalimantan, the Center for International Forestry Research in Bogor, Ir Latesia, said Wednesday that the government's ability to prevent the conflagration was being reduced by the economic crisis and shortage of money.

#### BRIEFLY

#### Burma Gets Grant To Combat Drugs

RANGOON — The United States and Japan have pledged grants totaling \$3.8 million to help Burma eradicate poppy cultivation: on its border areas, a Burmese of-ficial said Wednesday. The pledges of \$3 million by the

United States and \$800,000 by Japan were made after a two-day seminar on strategies to eradicate poppy cultivation jointly organized by the United Nations Drug Control Program and the Burmese and Japanese governments in the capital Rangoon.

This would be the first direct grant made by the United States to Burma in its fight against opium and other drugs processing since 1988 when the military seized power in the country.

Burma's northeastern border with Thailand and Laos forms the so-called Golden Triangle where poppy growing thrives. (Reuters)

#### Forest-Fire Haze Worsens in Borneo

KUALA LUMPUR - Haze from forest fires has worsened in a Malaysian area of Borneo, and officials Wednesday orged factories to reduce operations and residents to wear masks.

All kindergartens and schools already had been ordered closed in the Miri division of Sarawak state, where haze has come from fires in both Sarawak and a neighboring Indonesian province.

The Air Pollutant Index has passed 500, considered an emergency level, although Hatta Solhee, operations coordinator for the Sarawak Natural Disaster Relief Committee, said only the federal government could declare a health

#### Malaysia's Pledge Over Immigrants

KUALA LUMPUR — Malaysia on Wednesday dismissed fears that more than 500 Indonesians expelled last week could be tortured, and vowed to press ahead with its plans to deport thousands more.

Deputy Home Minister Tajol Rosli Ghazali denied that authorities were rounding up Indonesians with residency papers, and said the number of repatriated immigrants had exceeded expectations.

Mr. Tajol said, "We are sympathetic, but we must remember that if they come in their thousands, where do we put them? The Malaysian economy cannot sustain them." (Reuters)

#### For the Record

Seven people in China's northwestern region of Xinjiang have been sentenced to 5 to 11 years in prison for killing 668 wild takin, an codangered yak-like animal, a court official said. (Reuters)

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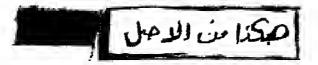
*EUROPE* 

BRIEFLY

FACING A DEADLINE — Britain's Northern Ireland secretary,

Mo Mowlam, leaving the site of peace talks in Belfast on Wednesday.

Negotiators are trying to reach an agreement by next Thursday.



# Burma Gets Gray

BRIEFLY

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To Combat Drug

Arms Lobby Investing Heavily in NATO Growth By Katharine Q. Seelye New York Times Service WASHINGTON - American arms manufacturers, who stand to gain billions of dollars in sales of weapons. communication systems and other military equipment if the Senate approves NATO expansion, have made enormous investments in lobbyists and campaign contributions to promote their cause in Washington. The end of the Cold War has shrunk

the arms industry and forced it to diversify. But expansion of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization - first to Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic, then possibly in more than a dozen the tobacco lobby spent \$26.9 million in other countries — would offer arms that same period, 1991 to 1997. manufacturers a new and hugely lucra-America's six biggest military con-tractors have spent \$51 million on lob-

bying in the past two years, according to an analysis prepared for The New York Times by Campaign Study Group, a re-search company in Springfield, Virginia. If lobbying costs were included from all companies that perform military-related activities, such as computer and

the lobbying effort of any other industry. abroad," said Senator Daniel Patrick Britain, France and Russia Not all of the lobbying has been for NATO expansion, however. Contractors have billions of dollars' worth of other husiness before Congress. But NATO expansion has been a central concern because it offers so many opportunities.

The military industry also remains the most generous contributor lo congressional candidates, the study group said, giving nearly equally to Democrats and Republicans.

The four dozen companies whose main business is arms have showered candidates with \$32.3 million since the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe at the

The top six U.S. military companies increased their contributions to federal campaign committees as well, to \$2.4 million in 1997 from \$1.5 million in

In the past six years, those six -Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, Textron, Raytheon, Boeing and McDonnell Douglas — have given the committees more than \$15 million. "Like any other American manufac-

Moynihan, a New York Democrat who opposes the proposed NATO expansion. "Most every other customer they can think of, we have forbidden them to sell

anything to." Under NATO rules, new members are required to upgrade their militaries and Western military alliance, which overpensive — weapons and communication systems in the world.

Companies that win contracts to provide that "interoperability" to the aged Soviet-made systems in Eastern Europe will benefit enormously from NATO's eastward expansion.

Thus the sums spent on lobbying and for campaign contributions are relatively small compared with the potential benefits in the new markets provided by a larger NATO, particularly from the sale of hig-ticket items such as fighter aircraft. A single F-16, made by Lockheed Martin, costs about \$20 million; a single

F-18, made by Boeing, costs \$40 million to \$60 million. Poland alone wants m huy 100 to 150 fighter planes and is weighing offers from Lockheed and technology concerns, they would dwarf turer, they are looking for markets Boeing as well as from companies in

"It's a big deal," said a Polish official

who spoke on condition of anonymity. "They are doing their best," he said of the companies. "They are very active."

The argument is not that NATO is being expanded for the benefit of military contractors. President Bill Clinton make them compatible with those of the committed himself more than four years ago to broadening the alliance as a way sees the most sophisticated - and ex- to unite and stabilize Europe, and his administration has worked to promote the expansion as the cornerstone of his legacy in foreign policy.

Nor are the military contractors alone in their support for expansion, although few other constituencies in the United States care as much. There has been virtually no organized opposition to NATO expansion, and the public has not been engaged.

The arms manufacturers quickly latched onto the idea and over time belped the administration sell it.

"It's not a case of whispering in Clinton's ear and saying, Expand NATO because we want to sell arms," " said William Hartung, author of a recent report for the World Policy Institute, a private arms-control group that opposes expansion. "But they've become one of Clinton's most energetic allies in promoting it.

The chief vehicle of support for NATO expansion is a group called the U.S. Committee in Expand NATO, which is backed by the arms industry.

The committee president is Bruce Jackson, who is also director of strategic planning for Lockheed. Corporate sponsors are also supporting ethnic groups that have championed NATO membership for their native countries.

This has led to some skepticism in the Senate. Senator Tom Harkin, Democrat of lowa, said the lohhyists had been so effective that the expansion amounted to "a Marshall Plan for defense contractors who are champing at the hit m sell weapons and make profits." A mp Republican aide in the Senate joked that the arms makers were so eager for NATO expansion that "we'll probably be giv-ing landlocked Hungary a new navy."

That zeal by the contractors, the extensive spadework by the administration and the support of Senstor Jesse Helms, the North Carolina Republican who is chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, have led to the virtual certainty that the Senate will approve the treaty to admit the Poles, Hungarians and Czechs.

Debate started two weeks ago but was postponed until later this spring in the hope that the issue would receive a more focused hearing then.

French Student Dies In School Gun Play

LILLE, France - A French secondary school student died Wednesday after playing with a pistol in class, raising an outcry over the presence of guns in schools.

The 18-year-old youth apparently thought his father's pistol was unloaded as he and his best friend toyed with it at the back of the room during a science class in northern France on Tnesday, the police said.

**Education Minister Claude Allegre** called on the Interior Ministry to establish security checks to prevent the entry of weapons into schools. (AFP)

#### German Fears Crime As Borders Open Up

BONN — Interior Minister Gnen-ther Beckstein of Bayaria warned Wednesday that the full opening of Germany's border with Austria could lead to a surge in crime.

Austria joined the Schengen agreement removing borders within nine European countries in December, but the passport-free border went into full effect only Wednesday.

Mr. Beckstein evoked a nightmare scenario of foreign criminals and illegal immigrants pouring across the frontier into Germany through the border state of Bavaria. "We need a net nationwide that is not a burden on citizens," he said.

#### Swiss Continue Case Against Israel Agent

BERN — Switzerland's cabinet Wednesday authorized the federal prosecutor's office to continue legal action against an Israeli agent detained since a botched spying op-

eration here in February. The government has to give soch authorization in political cases. The detained Israeli is one of five people said to have been caught trying

to bug a apartment block in the Bern suburb of Liebefeld. He was detained after being found in possession of wiretapping equipment; the other four people were released.

Officials said information about the investigation, which has strained relations between Switzerland and Israel, would be made public only at its

#### Austrian Coalition Is Divided on NATO

VIENNA --- Austria's government said Wednesday it was still split over whether the country should join NATO, saying it could not meet a self-declared deadline to find a compromise position on the issue.

Chancellor Viktor Klima, of the Social-Democratic Party, announced the failure after last-ditch talks with Foreign Minister Wolfgang Schuessel of the People's Party, the junior coalition partner.

The government has been divided over the issue for months, with the People's Party for and Mr. Klima's party against. They had set an April deadline to submit a recommendation on the issue to Parliament. (AFP)

#### French Right Seen As Lacking Ideas

PARIS- More than half of French voters say the country's conservatives have no idea how to resolve a crisis set off by deals with the far-right National Front, a poll said Wednesday.

The right was thrown into disarray last month when five members of the Union for French Democracy allied with the Front to win election as regional council chairmen. The Union has effectively collapsed since then. Fifty-seven percent of voters polled by Ipsos said they thought the right had no "project for the future of France." (Reuters)

#### Romanian Nominee For Prime Minister

BUCHAREST -- Romania's leading political party Wednesday chose its leader, a 55-year-old economist, as is candidate for prime minister.

The National Peasant Party nom-inated Radu Vasile to replace Victor Ciorbea, who resigned Monday after a three-month battle on how in tackle Romania's economic woes. Mr. Vasile has the support of all four parties in the governing coalition. President Emil Constantinescu is

expected in name a prime minister

### Holbrooke to See Turkish Cypriot Chief internationally recognized Greek Cyp- tact with the Italian government and

ANKARA — A special U.S. envoy. Richard Holbrooke, will meet the Turkish Cypriot leader, Rauf Denk-

tash, in Cyprus this week to discuss the division of the island, Turkey's For-

man, Necati Utkan. He referred to a part of Cyprus that is recognized only by Ankara.

The spokesman said the two would hold formal talks on Friday and have was left out. breakfast the following morning. Mr. Holbrooke, who helped negotiate the truce in Bosnia as a State Department official, is now a banker but has been named by President Bill Clinton as a troubleshooter envoy for Cyprus. Officials in the Turkish Cypriot en-

clave said Tuesday that it could fully integrate with Turkey if a dispute with the European Union over membership

for the island spun out of control.

The EU officially began membership negotiations this week with the the export licenses but we are in condeployed.

For Yugoslavia

Washington Post Service

UNITED NATIONS, New York —

ditional pressure on President Slobodan Duma's response were the latest sur-

Milosevic to employ dialogue rather prises to emerge from Russia's political

than violence in resolving tensions with box of tricks. The president dismissed

a call for cutting off arms supplies to Yngoslavia issued March 25 in Bonn by foreign ministers of the six-nation Bal-Russian and international financial

thnic Albanians in Kosovo. his entire cabinet last week and then named Mr. Kiriyenko as the man he

The Security Council has imposed an

kans Contact Group that is seeking to

head off a potentially new ethnic conflict

With the United States arging an especially tough stance, the Contact Group

is trying to get Mr. Milosevic to stop a crackdown by Serbian police on the Al-

banians who make up 90 percent of the

Fourteen members of the council

voted for the embargo resolution Tues-

Tibet, argued Tuesday that Kosovo was

an internal matter for the Yugoslav gov-

The embargo is unlikely to have a

large impact, since Yugoslavia has a hage military advantage over the Al-

banian separatists, who are also covered

**NEW YORK FASHION** 

By Suzy Menkes

International Herald Tribune

arms embargo on Yugoslavia to put ad-

ethnic Albanians in Kosovo.

in the Balkans.

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province's population.

riot government of Cyprus, angering the problems should be overcome, Turkey and Turkish Cypriot enclave. The Turkish spokesman said Mr.

Holbrooke would visit only the Turkish Cypriot sector of Cyprus, which has eign Ministry said Wednesday.

"He will go to the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus on Friday evening and meet Denktash," said a spokesand meet Denktash," said a spokes-Tension has mounted between the

two sides since the European Union announced plans last year for Cyprus in enter the 15-nation group while Turkey The Turkish Cypriots are not part of

the EU talks. ■ Hopeful on Getting Missiles

The Cypriot defense minister, Yiannakis Omirou, said Wednesday that under international pressure to cancel the government remained hopeful of an order for Russian S-300 ground-to-

Continued from Page 1

The Federation Council also ap-

proved a softly worded resolution call- nomic reforms.

roundtable talks in the next few days."

Mr. Omirou said.

Earlier this week, a government spokesman, Christos Stylianides, admitted that the Italian government was having second thoughts about completing an order for the ground-toground missiles Mr. Stylianides said Italy's ambas-

sador here, Francesco Bascone, reported "serious concern at high levels in Italy about completion of the order."

The defense minister said the order for the missiles, which have a range of np to 150 kilometers (90 miles) and can be converted to ground-to-air use, had been placed in 1996 and was due for completion 'now.' The Cypriot government has come

overcoming Italy's misgivings about completing a delivery of Aspide 330 missiles. Agence France-Presse report-Turkey has threatened a military

There were some difficulties with strike against the missiles if they are

guine about the country's political crisis.

time was being lost for Russia's eco-

they may make up for it."

UN Bans Arms RUSSIA: Yeltsin Defuses Tension by Inviting Deputies to Talks Addressing the Federation Council on But the Moscow representative of the Wednesday, Mr. Kiriyenko himself International Monetary Fund said that painted a pessimistic picture of a stagnating Russian economy and falling liv-

ing standards. ing for talks with Mr. Yeltsin.

Mr. Yeltsin's invitation and the precions time is being lost," said the precions time is being lost," said the precions time is being lost, said the precions time is being lost, said the make the benefits of reform more tangible, and said he would work under the banner. "A strong state, strong authorbanner: "A strong state, strong author-

He said the uncertainty should not ities, strong government." The Communists and other parliamenprevent the new Russian government from signing its deal with the IMF for tary groups say they will not accept Mr. wanted to replace Viktor Chernomyrdin as prime minister.

Russian and international financial markets have remained relatively san-Kirryenko, arguing that he is too inex-perienced and unlikely to change his pre-decessor's liberal policies in the two years before the next presidential election.

# PAPON: After Hearing His Final Plea, Jury Begins Deliberations

Continued from Page 1

ushered from the courthonse and driven away in an armored vehicle to await the

day night; China abstained. China, con-cerned about challenges to its control of mediately afterward have on time limit, but a verdict was expected during the Man integral part of Yngoslavia and thus night. The panel must consider 764 questions, or counts, against Mr. Papon concerning his role in ordering the ar-rest, detention and eventual dispatch of 72 French Jews on train convoys from Bordeaux in 1942, 1943 and 1944.

At the time, he was the second-ranking official in Bordeaux in the nominal

Auschwitz, only two of today's jurors know about?"

judges is supposed to ease the other jurors' consideration of so much detail enveloped in legal definition.

After presenting nearly two hours of evidence that Mr. Papon, like his victims and most of the world, was unaware of the world, was unaware of the world. He has undergone regular check-nps the Nazis' elaborate design for genocide at the hospital, usually on Wednesdays, until the end of the war, the chief defense during the six-month trial.

French administration of what was es- lawyer, Jean-Marc Varaut, left the jury sentially German-occupied territory. with a freighted question: "Can one be When the first trains left Bordeaux for an accomplice to a crime one doesn't

were alive.

The votes of eight jurors are required for a conviction. If Mr. Papon is convicted, judicial appeals probably will mean that he will never go to jail.

#### ■ A Stop at a Hospital

Mr. Papon stopped at the Haut Leveque

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THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

Lang's cool clothes in warm fabrics: a clottedcream parks in fluffy alpaca over ice-white mole-skin pants; a tailored ivory coat with a silk jersey lining and any tweed pants, and a new-look sweater set, in which a down-filled cashmere shawl is slung from shoulder straps like an unfurled backpack. Visiting the showroom to touch the clothes and stroke the dense, soft surfaces, added a further dimension that even the celebrity model Daryl

Hannah could not create on film.

"Richness and drama," said Lang to describe the effect of the deep-pile luxury in lightweight fabrics and the dashing capes and flying panels. That could mean a sweater with one ultra-clongated the could mean a sweater with one ultra-clongated. sleeve floating like a wisp of smoke at the cuff. It emphasized a modern romance.

The concept of the cape has been hovering over the international collections as part of a medievalthe international collections as part of a memoral revival theme. In Lang's show, it became an inspired way to liberate the body from strict minspired way to liberate



Floating Into Gotham and the Web: The Cape

Lang's ribbed sweater with shawl-cape.

sportswear, without ever becoming a period piece. The cape theme just fitted seamlessly with simple pieces given a strong signature, like a T-shirt based

or giving them a new angle --- was a refreshing way to move on from minimalism.

The irony is that Lang's collection was showing what American designers should do best: sportswear taken to a new dimension, without losing any of its innate modernity and ease. It is ironic too, that if the collection had been put on the runway, it would have knocked the socks off the competition.

The urge to give fashion an "edge" can lead designers into big trouble. Richard Tyler has recently shown in his New York town house, to display couture details. But for his fall collection he moved to a Chelsea warehouse and went all artsy, with lumpy, frumpy long skirts, bloused bodices, truncated trousers with awkward pleats, paired with zippered leather jackets. The result was disastrous.

The collection seemed designed for an unusual woman: one who longs for an opulent outfit to add inches to her hipline.

Why would a designer whose constituency is glamour, present plunging necklines that were flattening rather than flattering, sequined gowns looped up with stringy leather belts and embellishments that would hobble a hemline or flood a bodice? The occasional simple, long coat or draped black dress

was a reminder of how good Tyler can be. Since a uniform look of long, gray clothes has invaded the New York runways, it was pleasing to see Vivienne Tam marching to a different tune. The Hong Kong-raised designer had moved her inspiration from the Pacific Rim to the Asian heartland of Bhutan, for Chinese print jackets that had fleece linings and peasant plaids that were worked in sequins. The fiery lacquer reds, glowing yellows

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THE WORLD'S DATE! NEWSPAPER

## The Cyprus Mess

thought to provide incentives for an easing of tensions between Greece and Turkey and between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots, too. A general settling down of an agitated corner of Europe seemed the potential diplomatic prize. But that was before the European Union fumbled the opportunity away. Now there is fresh talk of war. and it's American diplomacy to the rescue, again.

It was awkward enough when the European Union took in Greece but not its strategically more powerfully but economically and politically less ready rival, Turkey. That invited Greece to play the gatekeeper. Germany, inspired in part by its domestic argument over Turkish guest workers, took up a similar role. As a result, the Turks were insultingly denied a place in the queue of would-be EU new members. Others, including Cyprus and the new Central European democracies, went right into the line. The Turks countered excessively by suspending talks between the Greek government of divided Cyprus

The bids by Cyprus and Turkey to and the enclave that Ankara controls in join the European Union were once the north, by threats to annex the en-: clave, and by military gestures. Greek Cypriots imprudently ordered anti-aircraft missiles from Russia.

A year ago it was possible to wonder why the United States should get into this particular European mess. The an-— the right answer — was and is that the American leadership role in NATO makes Washington the rescuer of last resort when two alliance members depart reason.

The Europeans, however, should not be let off the hook. Greece and Turkey are not Middle East, they are Europe, Western Europe. This is not 1945, it is 1998. Europeans should have been able to compose a single political intelligence to deal with the Greek-Turkish question. At the least, the European Union could have handled its accession affairs in a manner that, if it did not ease national grievances, would not have aggravated them. Now the United States is left to help, if it can, bring Greeks and Turks back to the starting line.

- THE WASHINGTON POST.

ternal conflicts, most of them ethnic or religious, the hostilities between Peru and Ecuador are a throwback. The clash last erupted in 1995. Since 1942, Peru and Ecuador have gone to war three times over border areas that both countries claim. Now, however, this traditional war may be coming to a very modern end, since the two have agreed on the outlines of a peace treaty that would set up trade, commerce and joint access to the disputed land that started the war.

The two nations have been arguing over the territory since Spanish colonial times. In 1942, a treaty called the Rio Protocol awarded the land to Peru. Ecuador ratified the pact but then repudiated it, and its maps still show the old borders. The land matters symbolically, as it is the basis of Ecuador's

proud claim to be an Amazon country. The 1995 fighting killed dozens of people and wounded hundreds. Since both sides could push the countries back to war. Fortunately, this ancient dispute is now facing some modern solutions,

operation, and the decision of both nations that trade and growth are more

important than nationalist symbols. The two stopped fighting when leaders of Brazil, Argentina, Chile and the United States organized peace negotiations. In January, both nations signed an agreement setting May 30 as a target for a peace treaty, and four committees are working out the details.

Ecuador will give np its quixotic claim to the disputed land. In return it will have permanent access to the Amazon, which is closed to it today. The two countries would also work together on

- THE NEW YORK TIMES.

# Basic Ways to Make a Real Difference in Africa

HELSINKI — The renewed interest of U.S. policymakers in Africa comes at a critical juncture in the concades. Africans have struggled to revive economic growth, yet much of the continent remains mired in deepest misery.

Asia's present problems, although severe, pale in comparison with Africa's. An African child born in 1980 is now a young adult. Mnch of his or her future has already been fashioned by a lack of primary schooling and by inadequate health care. As a cousequence, Africa's "human capital" is the weakest of any developing region.

Not only is this a human tragedy, but the lack of skills undermines Africa's ability to attract the direct foreign investment it so desperately needs to refashion its economies.

If low wages were all that foreign investors required, every multinational would move to Ethiopia. But foreign and domestic entrepreneurs need skilled labor and good infrastructure. Africa has too little of these. So foreign investment will continue to flow overwhelmingly to Asia, Eastern Europe and, increasingly, Latin America.

Mnch recent attention has quite rightly focused on the tragedies of By Tony Addison

tinent's fortunes. For nearly two de- Rwanda and Congo. But there is also a group of desperately impoverished countries whose ill-fated experiments with state socialism in the 1970s interacted with superpower rivalry to create conflict and economic collapse.

Angola now appears to be starting on the road to reconstruction. Ethiopia and Mozambique are rebuilding. Eritrea is a new nation born out of war. But last year's vicious civil war in Congo (Brazzaville) has derailed a promising economic recovery, and Somalia pursues its uncertain trajectory.

All of these countries have underdeveloped human resources, all face problems of political and economic transition. Their reconstruction is an urgent issue. State capacity is weak or barely exists, conflict has fractured civil society, and poverty is deep.

Where better for U.S. foreign policy to start than in these countries? By placing the problems of post-socialist, post-conflict Africa at the top of its foreign policy agenda, Washington could make a real difference. Success would reduce the immense humanitarian burden now borne by the United

Nations, and release resources to meet urgent needs elsewhere.

If these countries do not recover successfully, their plight will undermine the region's stability. The military and political interaction last year between Angola's crisis and those of the two Congo demonstrates this.

Successfully rebuilding the economies of Eritrea and Ethiopia would stabilize the Horn of Africa and demonstrate ways forward for reconstructing Somalia when the time comes.

What better place to start than with the human capital of young Africans? Mozambique is trying, with its limited resources, to rebuild its primary schools. Its primary health care system was once a model for Africa, before 16 years of war destroyed 60 percent of the country's rural clinics.

Ethiopia and Mozambique are highly indebted poor countries," in the IMF and World Bank jargon. In plain English, this means that they have no chance of servicing or repaying their debt (most of which is owed to official development agencies) from their meager export earnings. And each dollar taken from their government budgets to service that debt is a dollar less for education and health.

hind debt relief and new resources for Africa. This, together with help in the areas of trade and foreign investment, can return the region to the growth that it has missed in the last-20 years.

The first

Russia should also make a contribution. Ethiopia and Mozambique still have debt outstanding on loans from the former Soviet Union. Much of it was contracted to finance military procurement and hopeless Soviet-style

rojects in industry. The U.S. and Russian governments should join to kick-start economic recovery in the post-socialist, post-conflict countries of Africa. This would finally clear away the African debris of the Cold War, and it would give young Angolans and Eritreans the new future . they so desperately need.

The writer, o research fellow of the United Nations University's World Institute for Development Economics Reseorch, directs o project on underdevelopment, transition ond reconstruction in Africo. In 1994 and 1995 he helped design the government of Mozambique's strategy for poverty reduction.
He contributed this comment to the International Herold Tribune.

#### Peru and Ecuador

then Peru has bought more jet fighters and bombers. Nationalist politics on including regional diplomacy and co-

The hasics are already there. development projects, such as roads, irrigation and hydroelectric plants.

The Peruvian negotiator has rightly said the two countries should focus on their common enemies - poverty and underdevelopment. The apparent success of regional diplomacy shows how Latin America's pursuit of a businessfriendly climate has changed the continent. Such a focus has had mixed results, often pushing aside the poor. But one of its positive aspects is that Latin America now wants to make money, not war.

# **Evolving Russia Is Still a Long Way From Democracy**

By Max Jakobson

 $\mathbf{H}^{ ext{ELSINKI}}$  — It may take some time before the plot, or the plot within the plot, of the latest political spectacle pro-duced and directed by Boris Yeltsin in the Kremlin will be fully known. But we do not have to wait for the denouement to see that it exposes the hollowness of the democratic institutions that have been erected, like a stage set, on the ruins

of the Soviet system. At center stage, the president is a shadow of the heroic figure who had the guts to climb atop a Soviet tank to harangue troops sent to arrest him.

His second term in office began, in 1996, in a less glorious manner. Having concealed the true state of his health from the voters, Mr. Yeltsin was swept to victory by a massive campaign financed by a group of new-rich tycoons bent on protecting their fortunes against a possible Communist comeback.

and then from his dacha to passed into the control of fiprove that he is still in charge. He says he wants to accelerate reform, hat the decrees he signs tend to get lost in the labyrinth of the vast bureaucracy surcorrupt or criminal practices.

rounding him. Czar Nicholas l told the French Marquis de Custine in 1839: If I had five honest men, could rule this country. Czar Boris I keeps reshnffling his government in a search for five such men. The State Duma is dominated

by the red-brown alliance of Communists and ultranationalists, who wage a rearguard battle of obstruction and delay against reform. They are likely to stop short of provoking a presidential decision to dissolve the Duma and order new elections, since few members are prepared to risk their generous perks and privileges.

Since then he has been a half-time president, emerging now government censorship, have the reformist Yabloko party in the Duma, said at a Trilateral

nancial tycoons who use the newspapers and television stations for political manipulation, and now also to fight each other by means of lurid revelations of

Some Russia-watchers try to console us by pointing out that the free-for-all in the Russian marketplace is just like the brutal early stages of American capitalism; in dne course the Russian "robber barons," having amassed their fortunes, will become defenders of law and order, pillars of society. But the analogy is flawed.

The early American capitalists made their money by developing their own country. The Russian tycoons have profited from bargain sales of state enterprises, and they invest their money abroad.

Grigori Yavlinsky, leader of

Russia and America Aren't Foes but Have to Be Rivals

Commission conference in Ber- and indeed arrogant to expect lin this month that Russia must that organs of the Western syscreate a civil society as a basis tem can simply be transplanted for genuine democracy in order to put an end to the semi-criminal economy that now exists.

Bnt the legacy of almost 80 years of totalitarian rule stands in the way. The democratic parties have no roots among the people. The only party with a nationwide organization is the Communist Party, an enemy of

A civil society of sorts does exist, in the form of networks of private relations without which the Russian people would not have survived. But it is disconnected from political life.

Russia pretends to be a Western democracy, and the West pretends to believe it. Not to do so would be to question the universal validity of the Western system of parliamentary democracy and market economy, and that would be politically incorrect behavior.

Yet it is clearly unrealistic,

onto the body of a great nation that for more than a thousand years has followed its own path.

This is not to say that Russia could not change. Profound changes are in fact taking place below the political surface There can be no doubt that eventually Russia will find its own post-Soviet system of government. But it is not likely to be a copy of the Western model.

Russia remains split between the old and the new. The bone: of the last czar and of the members of his family have been exhumed and will soon be given a proper funeral. The mummy of the man who had them killed is still on view in a mausoleum, an object of veneration.

The writer is o former Finnish ambassador to the United Nations. He contributed this comment to the Interna-

# Hypocrisy in Congress

Republican leaders in the House of was what the mock vote had been Representatives have followed the un- meant in part to avert. fortunate example of their Senate counterparts on campaign finance reform, only even more clumsily. Their goal was to kill reform but avoid the blame. They may have failed at both.

Other legislation. The fund-raisin

Republicans have spent a year and a half claiming to be indignant about the fund-raising abuses in the last campaign, which were considerable and the work of both parties. But, given the chance to change the law to ban the principal abuse, having to do with the raising and spending of so-called soft money, they flinch. They like the money even more than they like delivering the sermons deploring its influence over the system of which they are a part.

Their leaders' problem this year has been to avoid or provide some protection against the charge of hypocrisy that in their piety they, no less than the Democrats, are trying to have it both ways. The tactic has been to offer up mock reform bills that they could be pretty sure (a) would not pass, in part because they were written to be offensive to Democrats, and (b) would not achieve reform if they did pass. Republicans who wanted could safely vote "aye" and provide themselves with cover, secure in the knowledge that nothing would be enacted.

The tactic failed in the Senate, where, to the leaders' consternation, a majority turned out to be in favor of real reform. The leaders were put in the anomalous position of having to filibuster to keep the Senate from exercising its will. Pretty much the same thing has now happened in the House. Fake votes were staged Monday night on mostly

fake bills; no one was fooled. A discharge perition is now being circulated anew in the House to take control from the leadership and force a series of votes on real reform, including a ban on soft money. The petition

In the Senate, the Democratic leadership ought to start offering the deflected reform hill as an amendment to

The fund-raising system is corrupt. In the end, the very members who look to be its beneficiaries are the ones it taints. Banning soft money would not solve all the problems, but if would solve some. They ought to do it. Other than raising still more money, they're sure not doing

anything else of consequence. —THE WASHINGTON POST

#### Other Comment A Culture of Violence

The shooting in Jonesboro, Arkansas, makes three incidents in the past couple of months in which children have turned firearms on their classmates and teachers. Gnns have always been a part of American culture, so it is hard to lay the blame there, or else explain why things like this were not happening 20, 50 or 100 years ago. Something significant has occurred in

the past couple of decades.

We have left our children to the good graces of a popular culture where pulling a trigger is the answer to any and all conflicts, where death is viewed without consequences.

When I was 11, I thought "Ben Hur' was the most gruesome movie ever made. Compare that with what today's kids have thrown at them every day -- computer games like Quake and Duke Nukem, where murder and mayhem are the simple pleasures, and taking a chain saw to your opponent gets extra credit. It's no wonder we've created a generation of sociopaths who lack a moral center to their lives.

- From o letter to The Washington Post.

#### By Alexei K. Pushkov

MOSCOW — "I will disappoint you, I will not be fired," Yevgeni Primakov retorted at a press conference in Bonn, when asked whether he would stay on as foreign minister after the recent fall of the For quite a few in the United States, disappointment it was. Mr. Primakov is demonized in

the American press as the evil genius of a Russian foreign policy that tends to oppose America whenever it can, be it over Iraq, Iran or Kosovo. But this is a false judgment, and an unfair one to Mr. Pri-

makov. His aim is not to confront America but to pursue Russian national interests. The problem is that those interesis enter into contradiction with U.S. policies more often than they coincide with it.

Russian government.

The eventual departure of Mr. Primakov would change that basic fact.

This is not to say there are no was a sort of tearnwork," says a

common grounds for action. top Russian diplomat. the Caspian Sea oil resources shun ties with Tebran at a time on Iraq, Russia and the But at some point this team-United States cooperate on the work stops. Moscow is against in the Transcaucasian and Centainment" is not accepted even basis of a common UN Security the so-called military solution tral Asian areas, which remain a by America's European allies. Council platform and share important goals. They agree that all weapons of mass destruction which Iraq might have should be destroyed, and that sanctions should stay in force until there is full evidence that Baghdad has stopped working on such

weapons.

Moscow also nnderstands that without the U.S. military forces in the Gulf region and the threat to use them, Saddam Hussein would have been much less inclined to listen to Russian diplomats and Kofi Annan.

The Russian and U.S. approaches to the Iraqi crisis were complementary. Only their combination could assure suc-

because it will fail to solve anything, while certainly delaying the day when the sanctions are lifted and Baghdad starts to pay Russia back its \$7 billion debt, as Russian oil companies start operations in Iraq.
Also, Mr. Primakov starts

from the assumption that Saddam Hussein is the undisputed master of Iraq, and that as long as this remains the case he is the one to deal with. U.S. and Russian approaches

are even further apart on Iran. Russia is threatened neither by Iran nor by the terrorist groups it reportedly supports. For Moscow, the danger of radical Islam is associated not with cess for the Annan mission. "It Iran hut with the Checbens or

cause they share approaches to But it does not think it should the Caspian Sea oil resources shun ties with Tebran at a time high priority for Russia. Iran is a traditional trade and economic partner, and a source of lucrative deals in the oil and gas area. Tehran supports Moscow's positions on oil and gas pipeline routes from the Caspian area.

Moscow sells Tehran arms and nuclear reactors, and is ready to engage, together with France and Malaysia, in a multibillion-dollar gas transportation ptoject on Iranian territory.

There are strong mutual suspicions, too. Americans accuse Russians of selling missile technologies to Tehran. Moscow strongly denies this and snspects Washington of trying to squeeze Russia out of the lucrative Iranian market.

There is no easy way out of this deadlock. Russians fail to see why they should not sell Iran nuclear reactors of the same type the United States agreed to give to North Korea (which cannot be used for making weapons plutonium), and why they should abandon an \$800 million contract for construction of a nuclear power plant in Iran. Moscow insists that its cooperation with Iran is limited to civilian nuclear power and complies with the

restrictions of the International Atomic Energy Agency. Russia is ready to show some apologize for the error.

the Taleban fundamentalists. restraint by not signing any new deals on sales of arms to Iran.

There are different perspectives on Kosovo as well. The U.S. policy might result in further partition of Yugoslavia. As a multinational state with secessionist pressures in a number of its own Muslim regions, Russia has to weigh the implications of such an outcome.

The end of Communist ideology in Russia precludes a new global confrontation. It does not preclade rivalry due to difference of interests. The Iradi crisis showed that it can be a rivalry of partners. Such rivalry supposes a capacity to listen to each other and a desire to reach a balance of interests.

The writer is foreign affairs columnist for the daily Nezavisimaya Gazcta ond o member of the board of the Russian Council on Foreign and Defense Policies. He contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

#### Correction

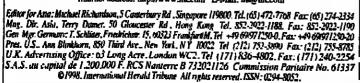
A commentary on this page yesterday, "The Trouble to Remove in Iraq Is Saddam Himself," was mistakenly attributed to Thomas L. Friedman. The writer was A. M. Rosenthal. We 4

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# Flogging Cigarettes Elsewhere

WASHINGTON — In 1986, Witold Zatonski, a Polish physician who brings a missionary's zeal to his work, told a Washington Post reporter a "state secret": Poland's Communist rulers contributed to the nation's appalling health problems.

Today in Warsaw he focuses on a new threat: American tobacco companies. Dr. Zatonski, director of Warsaw's most important cancer research and treatment center, spluttered as he described big tobacco's pusb to outflank the curbs contained

in legislation being shepher-ded through the U.S. Senate. Sitting beside him in Washington was an equally outraged Mark Palmer, who was U.S. ambassador to Hungary as the Cold War ended. The United States and its allies worked for 45 years to get the Communists ont," he said. 'And when we did, the Marlboro Man rode into town to claim the victory.'

"In Ukraine a few weeks the way into town from the airport, and 19 were selling cigarettes with messages that said directly or indirectly: Be American, smoke American."

In Russia, the first adver-

tisement in Red Square was

for a cigarette called "West."

By Jim Hoagland

ican." In Hungary, where smoking and tobacco-related deaths have soared, U.S. companies are expanding freesample promotions and advertising that is being restricted or outlawed in the West.

A coming foreign policy battle concerns America's responsibility for the enormous cultural and social impact it now has abroad, with smoking marketed as a national U.S. characteristic that others should emulate. Replacing GI Joe with Joe Camel could

harm U.S. national interests. The argument that the United States will eventually reap a harvest of resentment and financial claims from abroad rests on two assumptions that I find persuasive.

One is that Western companies are knowingly preying on societies that are particularly vulnerable to the marketing of a product which causes disease and death. These sociago I counted 25 billboards on eties have not developed the public health infrastructure and educational programs that finally led to declines in smoking in the West

"To keep the people quiet, the Communists provided cheap cigarettes, vodka and for a cigarette called "West." fatty sausages," Dr. Zatonski In Poland, L&M cigarettes are says. "Is it any wonder that advertised as "Really Amer- the life expectancy of young

males in Russia and much of Eastern Europe today is lower than in sub-Sahara Africa?" In former Warsaw Pact countries, in China, India and

elsewhere, cigarette taxes provide a major source of govemment revenue. Campaign contributions, or bribery, make the politicians look the other way as smoking skyrockets. Secondly, it is now clear that U.S. companies have decided to make up for lost profits at home by maximizing profits abroad. Chinese

and Hungarian teenagers are

fenced in as American teen-

agers are fenced out of cig-

arette marketing campaigns. The Clinton administration has been curiously reticent about legislative proposals designed to prevent U.S. tobacco companies from doing abroad

what they cannot do at home. American embassies no longer help promote smoking and cigarette sales overseas as they once did, but Mr. Palmer and others complain that there has been no clear U.S. leadership to fund antismoking campaigns abroad. There should be. President

Bill Clinton can take action to prevent a successor from having to tour Eastern Europe or India one day to apologize for a new failure of American sensitivity and moral fair play to the vulnerable abroad. The Washington Post.

#### IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1898: Blow in the Face NEW YORK - Spain's reply to President McKinley's last

representations comes like a

blow in the face to the peace party. The President asked for bread and he receives a stone. He insisted upon the independence of Cuba, and Spain replies with another proposition of autonomy. As regards the war party here, Spain's evasive, almost contemptuous, reply adds fresh fuel to their frenzy and, were Congress not under a pledge to the President to wait till Monday [April 4], they

#### 1923: Bulgaria Trial

would declare war at once.

SOFIA - After a trial lasting more than a year and a half, before a Supreme Court composed of seven jurists and a dozen untutored peasants, the members of the Radoslavof Ministry, which was in office at Zone border.

the time of Bulgaria's fight on the side of Germany, were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment, to the loss of civil rights and to the payment of the amount of the war indemnity claimed from Bulgaria.

#### 1948: U.S. Air Bridge BERLIN - The United States

started to supply by air today [April 1] its 10,000 citizens here as part of a plan to block a Soviet move to impose its authority on all traffic between Berlin and Western Germany. The first shipment of 15,000 pounds of American food arrived as both British and American sectors of this city remained without their normal rail supply route follow-ing suspension of all Allied military trains connecting Berlin with the Western Zones. The suspension came after the Russians held up two American and two British trains on the Soviet

OPINION/LETTERS

America should put its wall that delay relief and new testing and result wall and foreign medical refers the region to the growth areas of trade and foreign medical refers the region to the growth areas as should also make a factorial delay outstanding on loady and delay outstanding on loady and former Soviet Union. Middle for the foot of infance military. Soviet in industry.

The U.S. and Russian governments in the post-socialist post to know the post-socialist post in the post-social pos

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# Democracy

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come up to the strong hand. The heart jack was led to the king, and Gwozdzinsky as South won with the ace. The safest plan at this point was to

Clinton Gets a Needed Lesson on Power and Authority

By William Pfaff

rican realities, and also a small lesson in the wants it to do." It has, as the Security

Council's members demonstrated. The lesson was provided in the little lecture given Mr. Clinton by Nelson Man-At about the same time, the Pope wa weakening administration control of U.S. Cuban policy through bis visit to Cuba African president, who possesses undoubted authority, politely told Mr. Clinton that he would accept no instructions and condemnation of U.S. sanctions. Washington has since bowed to international opinion and made concessions

U.S.-imposed sanctions on Iran are ignored by other major trading nations. The administration has repeatedly postponed application of the retaliation against foreign companies trading with Iran that Congress has mandated, knowing that to apply penalties would produce a big clasb

with the European Union.

Benjamin Netanyahu has taken over control of America's Middle Eastern policy by refusing to carry out the promposition of the promposition o ises Israel has made concerning West Bank withdrawals and Jewish coloni-

zation of Jerusalem's suburbs.
This has greatly damaged U.S. alliance interests in the region, as Arah reaction to the Iraq crisis demonstrated, but Mr. Clinton can do absolutely nothing about it. Congressional pressure and Democratic Party electoral concerns prevent retaliation against Mr. Netanyahu's policies.
Mr. Mandela also told Mr. Clinton that

UN was able to take control because the other members of the Security Council. States on military action.

A former official of the Bush administration, John Bolton, also criticized what the administration proposal, now before Congress, to put trade in the place of African development aid was unacceptable. Mr. Clinton has announced augmenministration had acted as if the UN "has a ted aid, but he set out on this trip to promote life or existence ontside of what the U.S. American private investment in Africa.

remain formidable, the most important among them the absence nearly everywhere of stable political structures. Those will come only from the development of a substantial and educated middle class, which as yet hardly exists in sub-Saharan Africa.

There have been imposing African leaders, from the younger Kwame Nkrumah in postcolonial Ghana and the older Jomo Kenyatta in Kenya, to Yoweri Museveni in

America's unchallenged military and economic supremacy do not give it the authority to dictate to other nations.

Uganda today, but the one-party state remains the African norm. Mr. Museveni — America's current favorite — was in-stalled in 1986 after a military coup. During his East African stops, Pres-

ident Clinton apologized to Africans for slavery, neglect, indifference to genocide in Rwanda and for America's past support for dictators and the exploitation of Af-

ricans in fighting the Cold War. He did not mention the role of the United States with respect to the Ugandan-supported Tutsi exile force, led an American-trained officer. Paul agame. In 1994 this force liberated Rwandan Totsi survivors from the genocide launched by the Hntu-dominated

attacked the Hutu forces harassing Rwanda from refugee camps in neighboring Zaire. Together with the forces of its Congolese client, Laurent Kabila, it drove them and the refugee masses accompanying them deep into Zaire, where it seems that it killed nearly all of them - the final solution to a portion of the Tutsi's Hutu problem, inspired by the earlier effort of the Hutu government in Rwanda to make a final solution to its Tutsi problem.

This force took over Rwanda and later

Even though this eventual outcome was undoubtedly unforeseen and unwanted by Washington, the United States would seem to have been implicated in preparing Mr. Kagame's force, but nothing has been either conceded or reported.

Washington did endorse Mr. Kabila's succession to the man the CIA originally made leader of Congo (which be renamed as Zaire), the arrocious "Marshal" Moburu. Mr. Kahila refuses to allow international agencies to investigate the fate of the refugee Hutu.

The belief that America as "sole super-

power" would or could dominate the world, widely held after communism's collapse, rested on the illusion that military and economic power directly translate into political power, and that power is identical with authority.

The exercise of authority requires consent, and rests on a moral position. This is what Mr. Mandela was saying to Mr. Clinion, and what recent events have shown.

> International Herald Tribune Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### National Front

Regarding "Chirac Speech Increases Pressure Over Le Pen Deals" (March 25):

PARIS — President Bill Clinton's journey to six African countries gave him

and the hundreds of Washingtonians trav-

eling with him a short introduction to Af-

difference between power and authority.

dela in Cape Town on Friday. The South

from America on whom South Africa

should trade with, or on what its foreign

policy should be. He suggested that the

United States "set an example to all of

President Mandela's rebuke followed

Mr. Clinton's unsettling experience with another African, UN Secretary-General

Kofi Annan, just a month ago. Mr. Annan courteously hat effectively took control of the Iraq crisis out of American hands and

imposed a negotiated solution that most in

Washington had not believed possible,

and that many in the Clinton adminis-

The Senate majority leader, Trent Lott,

said at the time that the administration

had "subcontracted" American foreign

policy to the United Nations. Actually, the

Britain excepted, opposed the United

happened by saying that the Clinton ad-

tration did not want.

us" hy talking peace instead of power.

The level of support that the extreme right National Front bas received in France, and the willingness of some rightist politicians to deal with the group, is

indeed alarming. President Jacques Chirac's call to reform the regional election system to prevent National Front candidates from being elected may seem sensible on the

However, I think that instead of work. reforming the electoral system, "legitimate" politicians, and all concerned citizens, should be asking themselves why the Front en-joys such a high level of public support. Why do so many French

people feel alienated from democratic politics and politicians?

The French president should also consider the Froot's response to any change in the electoral system, which it doubtless would see as an attempt to interfere with its 'democratic' right to representation in local legis-

Such maneuvers do nothing to stop the truly determined. The Weimar Republic tried to proscribe the Nazi party when it was much smaller than the National Front is now. Mr. Chirac may that this tactic did not

ALLAN D. FORRESTER. Szeged, Hungary.

Guns in America

crs Target New Customers: Children" (March 30):

The article about "targeting" the next generation of happy shooters outraged me. As it is, gun sales to American adults should be strictly monitored, and only handguns and hunting rifles should be sold — what constructive reason could one possibly bave for owning an assault

weapon? U.S. tobacco companies are being attacked for targeting children in their advertising. Why not the same treatment for the National Rifle Association and gun manufacturers?

"Guns don't kill people, people do" is an often-used slogan of the anti-gun control crowd. But if those two children in Arkansas had been unable to get Regarding "Gun Manufactur- their hands on some guns, they

knives, baseball bats or what bave you. As those weapons are not very effective in mass murder, the boys probably would have given up their scheme or else would have been caught before they got

too far along with it.

CATHY FITZSIMONS. Lutry, Switzerland.

The Jonesboro tragedy shows again the disastrous results of the politically correct notion of unchecked individual freedom.

When violence is shown on television and in the movies in the guise of entertainment; when, guns are freely available, and when mothers abandon their young children at home to seek "self-fulfillment" elsewbere, it is hardly surprising to see young boys turning into wild beasts

The transfer of the transfer of the second o

would bave had to resort to and shooting at female teachers and pupils.

Only when we stop paying more than just lip service to traditional family values can we hope to prevent similar tragedies. MILO VESEL Divonne, France.

An individual's right to bear arms was made law in the early days of the United States, when law enforcement was not the organized affair it is today.

It is time that the Second Amendment be repealed. The law instead should read: "No one has the right to bear arms except those who are charged to do so to protect all of the people in our EVELYN E. LAWSON.

Villefranche de Conflent,

Executive Education

France

IFAM

Name:

ISG BBA

Home Address:

ESISCA BRA

Germany

29. Otto von Guericke

## A Philosopher Reaches His 'Angle of Repose'

By George F. Will

NEWPORT BEACH, California — Frederick L. Will, my father, recently died here. He was. as used to be said, well-stricken in years, nearly 89 of them, and suffered many of the afflictions that often accumulate in very elderly bodies. He was, it is safe to say, not sorry when the Dark An-

#### **MEANWHILE**

gel tapped him on his shoulder and said it was time to go.

In earlier ages, much was made of having "a good death."

Nowadays, science often overwhelms that art. When death approaches the elderly on measured tread, they are apt to become tangled in the toils of modern medicine. That is no condition to be in when the "summons comes to join the innumerable caravan."

Medicine is marvelous at help-

ing fend off infections and diseases in bodies that, absent them, would thrive. However, medicine becomes problematic when it resists not the body's afflictions but the body itself - when the body is no longer impelled by an essential vitality and instead tries to subside.

In this downward turn of life's trajectory, the mind and body can be mysteriously complicit. Fred's life began to ebh when his wife, who survives bim, disappeared into demenua, like a photograph left exposed to the sunlight. Fred could no longer bear to listen 10 music because it deepened his sadness, and be could no longer thrive.

Fred was a son of the middle border, and of a Lutheran minister who graduated from Gettyshurg Seminary about 40 years after the great battle. The minister served many marginal churches in Ohio, Pennsylvania and Maryland, including one in Boonesboro, Maryland, hard by Sharpsburg, the ham-let on Antietam Creek that Robert

E. Lee visited on Sept. 17, 1862. Lee and Luther were lasting influences. Fred's lifelong dignity and reticence, which did not desert him when he was dying, reflected Lee's model of American gentlemanliness. Fred's philosophic in-terest was quickened by witnessing Pastor Will struggle to reconcile the ideas of grace and free will. After earning a Cornell Ph.D., Fred taught philosophy at the University of Illinois for 39 years.

Early in Fred's career he labored for nearly a decade completing a manuscript of a book that reached conclusions broadly congruent with the prevailing con-sensus among philosophers about his special interest, the problem of induction.

Then one day, while standing at blackboard, there suddenly came to his mind an episode from a Thackeray novel, which, after he reflected on it, suggested that he and the conventional wisdom since Hume were mistaken about induction. So he set aside the manuscript, the fruit of his career until then, and began again. That unsung example of intellectual integrity is among Fred's finest works.

In Fred's last years he published a collection of his philosophic es-says, and he died shortly after receiving (hut when he was too ill to savor) the Festschrift published in his honor by some former students and colleagues. The essays and the essayists are radiating ripples from Fred's scholarship.

As he lay dying, we continued our lifelong playfulness of quizz-ing each other. What, I asked, was Special Order 191? The man who had been a boy in Boonesboro remembered Lee's lost order that Union soldier, on the way to Antietam, had found wrapped around three cigars.

One night when the nurse in the intensive care unit dimmed the lights, I asked, "Who said, The lamps are going out all over Europe: we shall not see them lit again in our lifetime'?" Barely audible through an oxygen mask. he said: "Easy, Lord Grey." Illness never dimmed Fred.

Joseph Epstein, the essayist, says that one of death's drawbacks is that it wipes out so much reading. Fred several times read Wallace Stegner's magnificent novel "Angle of Repose," whose protagonist is a retired professor.

The title is a technical phrase used by mining engineers to de-scribe the angle at which sliding dirt and dehris come to rest. Mr. Stegner's protagonist, seeing the irresistible metaphor, calls the phrase 'too good for dirt' and 'descriptive of human as well as detrital rest."

Fred left life as he lived it, nobly composed, having reached his angle of repose.

Washington Post Writers Group.

Netherlands

# BOOKS

### THE SMITHSONIAN

institution By Gore Vidal. 260 pages.

\$23. Random House.

Reviewed by

Christopher Lehmann-Haupt C OMEONE must have been telling the truth about T. Because be is a 13-year-old math-

ematical genius, he is summoned from St. Alban's School to the Smithsonian Institution on the fine morning of Good Friday, 1939. There, at the opening of Gore Vidal's phantasmagoric new novel, "The Smithsonian Institution," T. enters a cockeyed world where the exhibitions come to life when the building is closed, where scientists have scanning machines that can see into the past and the future, and where the chief director,

the hope of understanding his presidency. 'Be careful,' says one of the guards to T. "Things ain't always what they

an addled version of Abraham Lincoln,

reads and weeps over Carl Sandburg in

seem around here." . Things may all seem confusingly whimsical at first, what with T.'s being greeted by a gossipy Mrs. Benjamin Harrison, then nearly eaten for dinner by Iroquois Indians going cannibalistic, and finally seduced by a sex-starved squaw who turns out to be Mrs. Grover Cleveland. It is as if the anthor of "Burr," '1876' and "Lincoln" had overdosed on "Myra Breckinridge." Yet there is a design in the apparent

"War clouds are gathering over Europe, the narrative keeps repeating, as if to mock the sort of language implying that humans aren't at fault. While flunking a boring algebra test, T. has made doodles that reveal him to be "a master of quantum physics." As T. tells the directors of the institution,

He had an unusual knack for turning

how the thought of light being electromagnetic radiation made a brilliant symmetrical picture in his brain, and then he saw how it was done — with more numbers and then more energy and the atom itself could be broken to create further energy. He could also visualize a way to stop the chain reaction."

When J. Robert Oppenheimer learns of this, he wants to have a serious talk with T. "Well, you really are the prodigy they say you are," he says. Here the plot, already thick, twists itself into a pretzel, and Vidal does astonishing work just keeping us oriented in his hall of see-through mirrors. T. develops qualms about helping to create the bomh.

Moreover, at a military exhibition he encounters a wax figure he recognizes as his future self and learns that he will die (has died) in battle on March 1, 1945. He feels he must somehow stop the coming war. This presents him with two new problems to solve: how to travel back in time and alter history, and how to pick

the precise event to alter. Despite its seeming zaniness, "The Smithsonian Institution" is appealing in several ways.

First, there is the simple suspense of T's adventure: Will finding the right past to change really make a difference? Then there is the science-fictional illusion that Vidal successfully creates. Despite a certain amount of mumbojumbo, you come to believe in the novel's world of intersecting realities, where all time collapses into a quantum present and individuals meet different versions of themselves along the spacetime continuum.

Then there is the vehicle Vidal has built for his commentary on American history, which you may bristle at or cheer, depending on your temperament. Off and on throughout the story, T. numbers into pictures that he could mixes with all the presidents and their

study in his head as actions set off re-first ladies. Cleveland is reading Allan Nevins's biography of himself and find-As the narrative describes it: "Some- ing it splendid despite "a lot of mistakes." Lincoln rambles on, misquoting himself. "What a bore he was," T.

reflects, "even if he really was . . . Although still alive, Franklin D. Roosevelt pays a visit and defends his imperial motives in fighting World War II, especially when George Washington insists that the Japanese were provoked to bomb Pearl Harbor.

Jefferson, sounding, "to T.'s ear, just like the Englisb actor Ronald Colman in 'Lost Horizon,' "debates Polk.
"We are Rome, indeed," T. con-

cludes. "And our Athens is long dead." Historical joke is piled upon historical joke, none of which will be told bere for fear of giving away too much of the

plot. Finally, there is the puzzle of T.'s identity. He himself offers one explanation when he leads Dr. Oppenheimer to conclude that he nicknamed himself for "the T. that reverses the direction of motioo of all particles," for "Time it-

But readers of Vidal's memoir 'Palimpsest" may see in T. Jimmy Trimhle, his classmate at St. Alban's who died in 1945 at Iwo Jima and who, Vidal says,

was the only person he ever loved. In "Palimpsest," Vidal endorses the passage in Plato's "Symposium" where Aristophanes tells his dinner companions that there were once three sexes, people shaped like globes: male, female and hermaphrodite; they were divided by the king of the gods for behaving offensively and have ever after sought reunion, to make themselves whole again.

At the heart of "The Smithsonian Institution" is a dramatization of Aristophanes' conceit.

For all the novel's witty arabesques of plot, T.'s passion to make himself whole is what finally lends the story its sub-

New York Times Service

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#### BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott MARGIE Gwozdzinsky and Susan Wexler of

NORTH **♣ J 10-8764** New York, who will represent Q 2 3 the United States in the world championships in Lille, #J632 France, in August, while prac-EAST WEST tising, recently reached a **♦**Q52 tricky four-spade contract on ÿJ10962 09863 the diagramed deal. South's 4Q974 sequence showed a balanced SOUTH (D) hand with 23-24 points, and North's Texas bid of four VAQ65 hearts transferred the contract, insuring that the lead would 4 K 5 West

Pass Pass

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Pass

immediately regretted it. But there was reason to the ending. think that East was short in hearts, for with three or more that player would normally retain the king. The ace and king of diamonds were cashed, throwing a cluh from dummy, and a diamond was ruffed. The closed hand was . entered with a heart lead and ♥ 10 9 the last diamond was ruffed. 0 -The ending was as shown at A 10 8

other tables, she cashed the had held both ace and queen ace and king of spades and of clubs, because that player would have been in control in

> ♦ Q **4097** SOUTH

diamond and lead a clnb, a round club ruff would be make a game that went down play that would almost guar- available if necessary. In- at other tables. She would antee 10 tricks since a third- stead, like the declarers at the have failed, however, if West

Now a trump lead forced

NORTH **4 J 10** EAST

**785** 

East to break the cluh suit, and by playing low South was able to score a clnb trick and

cash the diamond ace, ruff a

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# **Crib**Tech

# Chip Companies In South Korea See Savior in 64s

Much Denser D-RAM Chips Offer Prospect of Profits for Producers Losing Money on Older Product

> By Don Kirk international Herald Tribuni

EOUL — A quiet revolution is exploding beneath the bland exterior of the desktop computer.

The era of the 16-megabyte D-RAM — dynamic random-access memory - chip is quickly fading. The world's leading manufacturers of memory chips, most of them in South Korea and Japan, are awaiting the point at which it will be cheaper to put a single 64megabyte D-RAM inside a computer than to load it up

with four 16-megabyte chips.
For South Korea, bit by the double whammy of the worst recession since the Korean War and plummeting prices of semiconductors worldwide, that point cannot come soon enough.

When the price barrier is crossed, the 64-megabyte chip will be used in high-end personal computers to free up space and accommodate demands for memory from Windows 98 and other new software, said Hwang Soong Young, marketing manager of Hyundai Electronics Industries Co., a major South Korean chip manufacturer.

With the won worth about 60 percent of its value a year ago. South Koreans see a chance to produce the coming generation of D-RAM chips at a low cost compared with their Japanese competitors, if only they can beat their competitors to world markets.

'All Korean manufacturers are now losing money on memory products," said Choi Hye Burn, an analyst with the Korean Semiconductor Industries Association. "They've experienced a 70 percent decline in two years. They have to move to the 64-megabyte to

Samsung Electronics Co., still producing more memory chips than any other company in the world despite mounting losses from the 16-megabyte chip, is battling NEC Corp. of Japan, the second-largest maker of memory chips, in bope of profiting again from semiconductors by next year.

"We're ahead of our competitors by about one year," said Chung Eui Yong, Samsung's marketing director. "We are already producing 8 million units of 64-megabyte chips a month. We hope high-density demand will increase beginning in April. It's a matter of simple mathematics.

The price of a 16-megabyte chip on the spot market has fallen from \$50 at its peak two years ago to slightly below \$3 today. The price of a 64-megabyte chip has fallen from about \$100 when it was introduced two years



A worker at a Samsung plant in South Korea where 16- and 64-megabyte D-RAM chips are made.

ago to around \$15. At the point at which one 64 costs less than four 16s, say manufacturers, mass-producers of computers will abandon the 16.

By this autumn, many manufacturers say, most personal computers will routinely use the 64-mega-

Plans call for lines at Samsung plants in South Korea and at its new \$700 million plant in Austin. Texas, to be turning out 20 million 64-megabyte D-RAM chips a month by the end of the year.

N THEIR race with the Japanese, South Korean manufacturers now have one advantage: the depreciation of the won that has battered the country's economy also makes their products more competitive. And these manufacturers, who produce 38 percent of the world's semiconductors, need all the edge they can muster against Japan's leading chip-makers — NEC, Toshiba Corp., Fujitsu Ltd., Hitachi Ltd. and Mitsubishi Electric Corp., which account for

40 percent of the chips on the market.

NEC, already producing 5 million 64-megabyte D-RAM chips a month at plants in Hiroshima, Japan, and in Scotland, is building a plant in Sbanghai and will

begin producing 64s there in February.

Like its South Korean rivals, NEC would like to drop the 16-megabyte D-RAM as soon as possible even though it is producing 11 million of them a month

"We are not making money at the 16-megabyte D-RAM level," an NEC spokesman, Aston Bridgman, said. "We get much more value out of the 64-mega-byte D-RAM."

Analysis cantion, however, against high bopes for the 64-megabyte magic bullet. South Korean companies, which rely on memory chips for 85 percent of their business, still face the prospect of losses.
"The 64-megabyte D-RAM is not going to resurrect

the industry to the extent that the 16-megabyte D-RAM was able to do early in its cycle," Dan Heyler, an analyst for the research company Dataquest, said. "It'll be a big boost for Korean manufacturers, but they still need diversification into the non-memory business."

Although Samsung ranked first in semiconductor roduction last year, it ranked seventh in sales, with \$6 billion. Intel Corp., focusing on nonmemory chips, led semiconductor manufacturers with \$21.1 billion in sales, more than twice that of seventh-ranked NEC, whose sales totaled \$10.7 billion. LG Semicon Corp., the only other Korean semiconductor manufacturer in the top 20, ranked 19th with sales of \$2.1 billion.

Cost-cutting, though, compromises the South Koreans' chances to profit from the 64-megabyte market. LG Semicon is three months behind in construction of a semiconductor plant in Wales and will not have it ready until 1999. Hyundai has suspended plans for a plant in Scotland and is far behind in opening a plant in Eugene, Oregon

How long will it be before the 64, like the 16, and the that preceded it, is history? Already, Samsung and NEC are producing the next generation of memory chips, the 128, in limited quantities.

"We sampled the 128-megabyte D-RAM in early

March," said Mr. Chung of Samsung, "We will start producing them in May. We expect the volume to

**ALT** /Commentary

# Handheld PCs: The Cult Of Simple Technology

By Douglas Rushkoff
New York Times Service

NEVER thought I was the type of person who would join a cult. But I did. It's not a cult of personality but of technology. It's the cult of the Palm Pilot — a simple handheld computer and operating system that now accounts for more than 60 percent of the global "personal digital assist-

ant" market. Most religious cults attract dis-gruntled and disillusioned members of more organized religions. Alienated by the institutionalization of spirituality, they flee to smaller groups where their relationship to God seems more direct and the nature of the universe demystified. Likewise, the members of my cult had

become disenchanted with the increasingly inscrutable world of the PC. Many of us had already sold our souls to the devil, surrendering our Macintoshes for the seemingly glob-

al companibility of Windows.

Quickly caught in an endless cycle of upgrades, we became slaves to our machines. The more opaque they got, the less we understood about what we were doing. The tiny Palm Pilot, made by 3Com Corp., reminiscent of the Nintendo Co.'s Gameboy, is a monochrome and essentially text-only com-puter with at most two megabytes of random-access memory. There is no hard drive, not even a place for a floppy disk. You enter text by writing or tap-ping a little picture of a keyboard.

Still, it is not nearly as convenient as a genuine laptop, or as featured or

as ergonomic. Then wby the cult?

I did not understand this myself until I put my demo unit into its cradle so that it could "synchronize" its data with the records and files on my buge desktop PC. With a bleep, the Palm Pilot wrestled my entire computer to the mat, sucked out the data and bleeped its thanks.

Bener still, the Palm Pilot's simple and transparent operating system has encouraged thousands of young software developers to create programs for it - often distributed for free.

It was just like in the good old days,

when the transparency of DOS or the

early Apple system allowed novice programmers easy entry; today it is the independent developers who are pushing the Palm Pilot to its limits, cuted.
creating Web browsers, guitar nuners, alarm clocks and hundreds of other Boughts Rushkoff is an author and applications for the platform - all consultant on computer and "Genavailable in an easy download from the Internet. It was while downloading a Palm Pilot c-mail program, in fact, that the essence of the cult made itself apparent to my unworthy senses: The whole program down-

loaded in less than two seconds. I was sure I had made a mistake, but, no. That was the entire piece of software—less than a couple of bundred kilobytes. Frankly, it does just about everything that the latest version of Microsoft Corp.'s gargantuan e-mail program does — with less tinkering.

That was when it hit me: I have been spending thousands of dollars and hours nursing and upgrading a monstrosity that doesn't really do anything more for me than a handheld personal digital assistant.

Sure, it's nice to have a keyboard. and I like a big monitor. But the machine and its operating system have become so unwieldy that no layperson knows how to program for it anymore
—only the high priests. The Palm Pilot
exposed the inefficiency of my desktop
and the nightmare that Windows has become. Now, hundreds of thousands of people are waking up from the same dream and forming grassroots com-munities around this accessible platform. They have the same passion and zealotry of the original Mac-heads.

A movement is under way to translate the Gutenberg Project, a buge collection of public-domain texts ranging from Aristotle to H. G. Wells, into free,

Pilot-compatible files.

Many Web-site designers have begun simplifying their interfaces so that they can be accessed from the primitive but srunky little browsers that run on the Pilot. In short, the Palm Pilot is forcing us to reassess our priorities in

computing. L for one, am better for it. Microsoft, bowever, is aware of this new threat to its uncontested rule and is releasing its own version of a palm computer.

Though it may look and feel like a Palm Pilot, I say it is time we draw our line in the sand.

F MICROSOFT'S track record gives us any indication of where it will attempt to lead us, Microsoft's entry into the palm-computing mar-ket will only serve to increase our dependence on the Windows system. What begins as open architecture will eventually become as opaque and impenetrable as Windows 95 or 98. But keep the faith. If we demon-

strate our commitment to the Palm Pilot, Microsoft will have to submit to our bidding. Get ready for its on-slaught of standardization assaults.

Even if we lose, and the Palm Pilot is wiped out by what will surely be a more colorful and better-marketed personal digital assistant, let us not forget this brief moment in computing history when real people understood the code. And remember: Every great cult has gained strength from being perse-

### SITES

Related sites on the Internet:

Information on Palm Pilot is at: www.pilotgear.com www.pilotfaq.com Other makers of handheld PCs can

be found at: www.casio.com/html/products/ handheldpc.html www.psion.com/computers/ index.html

# Deciphering a Misunderstood Language: Java

By Stephen Manes

times for the programming language called Java, what with Sun Microsystems Inc., Java's proud parent, and Microsoft Corp. publicly squabbling over its use and future. But computer users may wonder what it means to them.

The answer in the short run is, not much. As the latest hot computer language. Java has its share of fanatics. whipped into something of a religious frenzy by Sun's loud marketing claims and anti-Microsoft posturing. But much of Java's promise has yet to be fulfilled, and users can be pardoned for neither knowing nor caring what language is behind the software that sometimes does their bidding.

Although Java is often said to be aimed at supplanting operating systems like Windows, that is true only in a very narrow sense. At least for now, Java is not an operating system and cannot perform such traditional system functions as sending characters to a screen, documents to a printer or files to a bard drive. Its appeal lies instead in its value as a "platform" upon which programmers can build their edifices of code.

Its potential threat to operating systems like Windows is that programs written in Java can run on different kinds of machines, which might conceivably make operating systems less important someday. Java-based programs are designed to run not on a specific type of computer, but rather a 'Java virtual machine" that is built of software and in theory works the same way everywhere.

When a program runs, the virtual machine (most commonly built into a Web browser) translates the program into terms the real machine can understand. The result is that if a virtual

Pacific Stock Exchange

**Technology Composite** 

Source: Morgan Stanley, Bloomberg News

Intel Begins Transition As Grove Quits

Britain and Germany Press Pans to

Privatize Aerospatiala Mar. 31

Silicon Graphics to Post 'Significant' Loss

Standard & Poor's

Morgan Stanley

**Topix Electric** 

As CEO Mar. 27

Mar. 28-29

Eurotec

Technology

TECHNOLOGY

A glance at technology stock indexes around the world

838.26

For technology articles from the past week, see the Technology Index on

maker Mar. 31

the IHT's World Wide Web site at http://www.iht.com. Articles include:

New York Times Service grams should be able to run on its.

This is not a new idea. A universal TEW YORK - These are beady operating system called the "p-system" DOS on the original IBM Personal Computer. In bygone days, Microsoft itself used the technique to develop its top application programs, writing its software to run on a virtual machine tuned

for incompatible computers bearing logos like Commodore, Atari, Apple and Texas Instruments. approach The

foundered. Thanks to the overbead involved in interpreting them, programs developed this way almost invariably ran slower than those meant for a specific machine.

To make certain the programs ran everywhere, programmers tended to adopt least-common-denominator standards, avoiding ma-

chines' newest features. And the ability to develop once for a broad variety of different machines became unimportant once DOS and Windows came to dominate the market.

IMES change. The rise of the Internet, the increase in processing power and memory density and the arrival of a plethora of incompatible computing communications devices like telephones and pocket organizers made the idea of universal compatibility worth

In theory, if you download a little Java applet to check your stock portfolio from your computer, you might also do the same on your cell phone. A cheap terminal might take the place of an

INDEX

% change previous week

¥0.71

+2.35

+0.28

+5.45

Deli Sets Sights on China's PC Market Mar. 31

Boeing and CSA Gat Staka In Czech Jet-

AT&T Scraps Unlimited Net Access Agr. 1

Japan Firms to Cut Output of D-RAMs Apr. 1

% change year to date

+19.07

+19.76

+43.97

machine exists for a real one, Java programs should be able to run on it.
This is not a new idea. A "universal" expensive desktop computer. As a beadline on the Javasoft Web site reads, "It only on Windows. That threatens the works everywhere." "run anywhere" concept.

But the text just below that headline once ran on many machines big and small and competed with Microsoft's everywhere," and tests in the current issue of PC Magazine reveal just how wide the gap between "everywhere" and "just about" can be.

Using several different virtual machines, including those found in Web

browsers for Windows. Macintosh and Sun computers, 12 programs certified as "100 Percent Pure Java" ran properly only 64 percent of the time. The magazine reported that "no single environment was able to run every program success-

fully. It is little wonder that programming wags long ago modified Sun's battle "Write once, run anywhere," to "Write once, debug every-

Developing for a one-size-fits-all virtual machine instead of a real one re-

mains problematic. PC Magazine's report included screen shots revealing that some programs displayed things properly on one machine but garbled or omitted text on others. The report also raised the classic question of the right mouse button on a

two-button mouse: Because Macintoshes don't offer one, must Java developers avoid using it to avoid introducing incompatibilities? Java programs often exhibit the performance problems that bave been commonplace with virtual machine architectures. The simple Java-based menu on the Javasoft site, for example, takes much longer to load and reappears more

that appears by default. Even in Sun's own bouse of Java, there are several different levels of purity. A program that runs on a cell phone can be expected to run properly on a hig computer, but a program that works on a big computer will not necessarily work oo the phone.

slowly than the standard non-Java one

ND Java programs cannot do some rather important things, A like printing, at all until the next version of the language comes along, with a slew of new features and incompatibilities. Sun predicts that will

happen late this summer. Forms of Java from competitors threaten to undermine compatibility even further. Microsoft's version deliberately omits two significant aspects of the "standard" version and adds new functions in a way designed to encour-

SITES

Related Internet sites: Java One conference at: www.java.sun.com/ javaone

PC Magazine's Java article is at: www.zdnet.com/pcmag/ features/java98/

index/html



Java offers many technical advantages that programmers genuinely like. Educational institutions and companies from IBM to the tiniest startups have lined up behind it, making it certain to play a major role in the future of soft-

ware development.
But no language is a panacea, and Java-based programs for general users remain scarce.

As Web designers who switched from sluggish Java animations to faster techniques discovered, the malleable world of software offers many ways to accomplish a given goal. Until Java lives up to more of its claims, whether a program uses it or not is about as important as the logo on a coffee cup.

#### BRIEFLY

• SURF'S UP, OR AT LEAST THE PRICE: Barely two years after exploding on the scene, cheap Internet access is quickly going the way of the 10-cent pay-phone call in the United States. AT&T Corp. on Tuesday became the latest large provider of Internet service to scrap its flat \$19.95 monthly fee for unlimited access, joining an industry move to stem the surge of users straining the global network.

The action follows a similar pullback by IBM's Internet service that took effect Wednesday - the same day America Online Inc. raised its fee for unlimited access by \$2, to \$21.95 a month. Microsoft Corp. said Tuesday it would raise its monthly rate for unlimited use of WebTV, which enables people to cruise the Internet on their televisioo sets, to \$24.95 from \$19.95 as of June I.

The moves reverse a trend started in 1996, when \$19.95 a month became the accepted rate of admittance to a worryfree Web-surfing experience. Today, many of the roughly 3,500 Internet service providers in the United States still sell unlimited access. But few are making money, and nearly all are struggling to cope with bottlenecks that make it tough to get on-line during peak hours and delay the exchange of files and email across the Internet.

With some Internet providers, "20 to 40 percent of the traffic comes from 2 to 4 percent of the population," said Brian Oakes, an industry analyst with Lehman Brothers Inc. Starting May 1, AT&T will charge 99 cents for every bour that people spend on-line after the first 150 hours a month, in addition to the \$19.95 fee. AT&T. with 1.2 million customers, is the largest U.S. provider of Internetonly service.

 CYBERMORTGAGES COMMAND: E\*Trade Group Inc. signed a three-year agreement with closely beld E-Loan Inc. to sell morigages through a jointly branded Web site. The service will allow E\*Trade customers to go to a site that compares current mortgages with market rates. shop for low prices and apply for a loan. E-loan will provide customer service and process requests. Terms of the agreement were not disclosed.

The move into mortgages reflects the

increasing competition in E\*Trade's primary business - enabling people to buy and sell stocks via the Internet. More than 50 sites allow investors to trade stocks or mutual funds. Rivals such as Ameritrade Holding Corp. charge as little as \$8 a trade, far less than E\*Trade's lowest rate of \$14.95.

(Bloomberg)

• INTEL PLAYING CATCH-UP?: A chip developed by Intel Corp. aimed at the sub-\$1,000 personal-computer market is not as fast at running

expected speed, its performance running software applications was slower than that of rival chips developed by Advanced Micro Devices Inc. and Cyrix Corp., a unit of National Semiconductor Corp.

"We don't know what the magazine has in terms of a test system," said Howard High, an Intel spokesman, who added that the company had seen "historically" that "a number of publicanons get pre-production products, and when the real product comes ont, they wind up having to recant and reposition



Canon Inc.'s PowerShot A5, the world's smallest and lightest digital camera, which is scheduled to go on sale for 74,800 yen (\$560) on April 20.

applications as some of its clone competitors, according to tests performed by the computer magazine PC World.

The chip, called Celeron, is expected to be introduced April 15, but PC World said it had obtained a pre-production personal computer with a Celeron chip running at a speed of 266 megahertz.

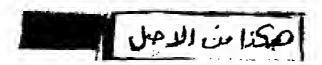
"PC World completed the first road tests of the processor, which indicate that Intel's rivals are still ahead in both price and performance," PC World said. Bill Snyder, senior news editor at PC

 ON-LINE DAYDREAMS: Salomon Smith Barney Inc. has dismissed two high-ranking members of its stockresearch department in New York for allegedly sharing pornographic material on their office computers, according to

newspaper reports.

A memo that circulated within Salomon Smith Barney said the employees had been fired for breaking rules against the electronic transmission of "offensive images or text such as pomo-graphy, The New York Times and The World, said that while the chip ran at its graphy, "The New York Times Wall Street Journal reported. (Reuters)

To reach TribTech editors or to comment on IHT technology coverage, send e-mail to triblech@iht.com





Programme of

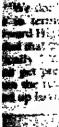
Microsoft however his new thresh to the unions of



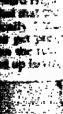


ed the inefficiency of in and forming gravities a cory of the original Marie, movement to under use to take the Gutenberg hose huge collection of pings using texts to H. C. Mall. of the state of t uting. I for are an long.

of will only











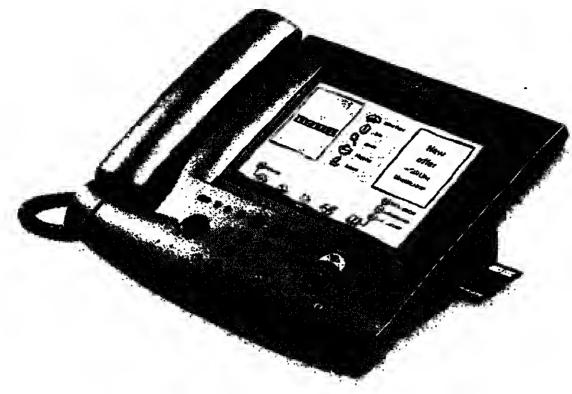












# BEST COMMUNICATION PRODUCT AWARD AT CEBIT SCREENPHONE

« The awarded product in each of the four categories was selected from more than 1300 entries presented at CeBIT '98. It was our aim to award those of which we expect to have a major impact on the future of the computer and communications world. »

Mr Rainer Grabowski, Editor in Chief of CHIP Magazine.



« I am very proud of this award which recognizes Alcatel's vision of end-to-end Internet solutions; from the most powerful Internet-ready switches in the world, to leading edge ADSL access systems, to Internet terminals for everyone at anytime. »

> Mr Serge TCHURUK, Chief Executive Officer, Alcatel

#### The Alcatel Internet screenphone will provide easy-to-use

and affordable access to Internet services, as easily as using a phone. This compact product integrates a colour VGA touch-screen, a retractable keyboard, a smartcard reader and ingredients required for plug-and-play access to Internet. It is based on plava™, the latest thin-client software suite from **SunMicrosystems™**, thus meeting all Internet standards.



# The Hi-Speed Company

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#### INTERNATIONAL

# or Clinton, a Last Brush With Slavery Before Leaving Africa

By R. W. Apple Jr.

ABORONE, Botswana — The last he boards Air Force One for the ht back to Washington.

was on Goree, a speck in the Atic Ocean off the coast of Senegal, millions of Africans spent their last inning the ghastly, and for many voyage to the New World.

the weighing room of the Slave se, men's muscles were examined nen's breasts measured and chil-'s teeth checked. Then they were ened to what was considered an ideal ping weight — 140 pounds (64 kilons) for men. Those who failed to meet r. Clinion's visit, fraught with nching emotional symbolism, will g to a climax the politics of contrition is has been on the continent's future, ecially the hope that political and

nd on Thursday afternoon, just be- ogized for U.S. inattention to Africa.

ANALYSIS lank underground cubicles, before asked repeatedly about the subject and made clear by word and deed that it

considered slavery repugnant. backing not only of black voters but also slavery in America," he said. of white moderates and conservatives. specifications were fed to the sharks. His efforts to increase aid to and trade with Africa would not be helped by a debate over apologizing for the benefits the United States derived from slavery or has practiced in Africa. Although his even paying reparations to modern African-Americans, as some have asked.
"Going back to the time before we

economic reform will make possible an were even a nation, European-Amerincrease in U.S. trade and investment icans received the fruits of the slave here, he has apologized for what he trade," Mr. Clinton said in Mukono, depicted as excessive focus on Cold War Uganda, in his most explicit comments of President Bill Clinton's 12-day imperatives in past U.S. relationships on the issue so far. "We were wrong in to Africa will be a visit to Goree with African nations. He has also apol- that as well, although I must say, if you look at the remarkable delegation we But he has not explicitly apologized to have here from Congress, from our cab-Africans for slavery, as inet and administration, and from the some African-Ameri- citizens of America, you can see there cans would like him to. are many distinguished African-Amer-The White House icans who are in that delegation who are rs on the continent, chained to walls spokesman. Mike McCurry, has been making America a better place today."

Mr. Clinton returned to the subject in replied that the United States long ago a weekend interview, released Tuesday, with correspondents for black-oriented news organizations. "Most of my Af-As he seeks in the months ahead to sell rican-American friends and advisers his policy of greater engagement with doo't believe that we should get into Africa to Coogress, business and the American public, Mr. Clinton needs the what was essentially a press story about whether there should be an apology for

"They think that that's what the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendment was, they think that's what the Civil Rights Amendment was, and they think we need to be looking toward the future. The facts of slavery are complex, as are

the reactions of African-Americans to efforts to bring it into discussions of modern U.S. policy toward African nations. It was not only European slave traders

and ship captains who profited for three centuries from the shipment of Africans to the United States, the West Indies and South American countries such as Brazil (where many voyages from Goree ended). Arab agents played a major role, as did African chiefs and clan leaders. especially in the territories stretching south from modern Senegal and then ance of slavery to his trip. The Reverend portation Secretary Rodney Slater and to say that I think slavery is largely eastward in West Africa to present-day lesse Jackson, a special presidential ensouth from modern Senegal and then



The president of Senegal, Abdou Diouf, and Bill Clinton reviewing an honor guard on Wednesday in Dakar.

products introduced to the continent by Europeans, sold their people into bondage for cloth, beads, tobacco, firearms the experience of slavery. and especially cheap liquor. It was the

the most basic -- its human resources.

to appreciate the emotional links of African-Americans to their homeland and to

beginning of the plunder of Africa's September to the Prague ghetto where riches by the outside world, starting with her pareous had been interned by Nazis Susan Rice, the assistant secretary Mr. Clinton's advisers, notably the Af- of the Clinton entourage to the castle in rican-Americans among them, have ex- Accra, Ghana, once used to protect slave pressed conflicting views on the relev- traders. For people like himself, Trans-

oy to Africa, took traveling reporters to Jackson said. "It was a big emotional Nigeria and beyood. voy to Africa, took traveling reporters to Jackson said. "It was a big en African leaders, sorely tempted by task for what he described as their failure day," and that had beginned on unusually

He also outlined an unusually Afrocentric view of American history, contending that the Reverend Martin Luther He said Madeleine Albright's trip last King Jr. had more to do with modem

Susan Rice, the assistant secretary of was far more widely ooted than the trip state for African affairs, sat glowering through much of Mr. Jackson's briefing. When her turn came she commented, "As an African-American, I would like

### Clinton Pumps Up the Volume

linton pulls out his hearing aids, look

The president relaxed for his long ght from Botswana to Senegal on uesday by spreading about 100 comet disks on his desk on Air Force

loud, having removed the hearing from Chelsea," the Clintons' collegeds that he uses to compensate for age daughter.

Remers

Slight hearing loss. "Mrs. Clinton came in and said, 'Bill, would you linton pulls out his hearing aids, look please turn that down?" said the White House spokesman, Michael

He described the scene as "like being in a dorm room.

"He must have at least 100 CDs up there," Mr. McCurry said. "He brings He put into his boombox a CD of some of his collection with him when ings by Paul Robeson and turned it he travels. And he gets a lot of things

### **EBANON: Israel Clears a Pullout Plan**

Continued from Page 1

zhak Mordechai, a former military imander in southern Lebanon, and Defense Ministry's coordinator for anon, Uri Lubran, has generated siderably more political momentum any previous such attempt.

Ar. Mordechai has traveled to France the United States for extensive talks, there have been reports of covert tacts with Lebanese officials. Mr. rdechai has also met with Antoine endorsed the suggestion. ad, commander of the South Lebto garner his support.

etings with Lehanese leaders.

leaders have stopped well short of through a peace agreement with Syria.

formally pledging to lay down their arms

Mr. Mordechai's plan is for a negotiated pullout, in which the Lebanese Army would assume responsibility for security along Israel's border, and other countries, such as the United States and France, would provide some further guarantees for Israel's security.

It was Mr. Mordechai who first suggested that Israel might accept Resolution 425. A month ago, Mr. Netanyahu

But the plan came under intense attack se Army, to reassure him that his from Ariel Sharon, the hawkish Minister es will not be abandoned by Israel, of Infrastructures. Mr. Sharon proposed an alternative plan, under which Israel yria and Iran, Hezbollah's major would unilaterally withdraw in stages, but nsors, have taken the matter seri- on the understanding that if there was any y enough to hold several high-level attack on Israel, the army would return. and would strike at such Lebanese targets contrast to Syria's resistance, re- as water reservoirs or power plants.

ons from Iran have been mixed. The The army command reportedly resian foreign minister, Kamal Kharsisted both plans, Mr. Mordechai's be-, was quoted in Beirut on Monday as cause it would raise false hopes, and Mr. ng that if Israel withdrew from Sharon's because it would risk bringing them Lebanon, "the goals of the Israel into a full-scale war with Syria.

The army's position, which reportedly lezbollah has insisted that it is fight- has support from the United States, is only to oust Israel from Lebanon, but that a solution to Lebanon can come only

By Steven Erlanger

TERROR: Alert Ordered After Killing

East negotiator, Dennis Ross, has re- raeli-Palestinian impasse, and the very turned to Washington after another oot- nature of the process - slow, tense and quite-futile trip, leaving the Clinton ad- exceedingly incremental — gives no all involved. ministration with a set of difficult

Does President Bill Clinton decide to continue down Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's preferred path of minor concessions, modest progress and high tension, sending Mr. Ross back to the Middle East yet again, or change tack policy is in flux and Iraq remains a crisis and try to put real pressure on the parties and go public with the administration's

Mr. Ross made some headway with Mr. Netanyabu and the Palestinian leader. Yasser Arafat, especially on how a third Israeli redeployment might be decided

hours before the car blew up.

rorists," Mr. Mordechai said.

curity forces.

in this matter."

out" on Israeli settlement activity.

But Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said Tuesday that "it's not nearly easy answer to the Clinton administration's Middle Eastern

dilemma. That stalemate is ANALYSIS damaging not only Israel's position in the Middle East, but Washington's, too, in a period when Iran final senlement between the parties.

that, at best, is only in abeyance. "Don't believe those who say there is ation," Mrs. Albright told American Jewish leaders in a briefing on Friday, according to notes on her call.

"There is a real problem, and the and on how to handle a possible "time- United States is losing its credibility

among all the parties involved."

Crossroads for U.S. in Search for Mideast Peace

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Middle enough" for a breakthrough in the 1s- insist, but is only trying to refine a proposal that represents Washington's judgment of a compromise acceptable to

> The U.S. strategy has been to phase Israeli withdrawals from the West Bank, due under the Oslo Accords, in parallel with specific Palestinian steps against terrorism, culminating after three months in accelerated negotiations on a

Part of the U.S. frustration is coocem that Mr. Netanyahu is playing for time with minor concessions like those to a peace process; that's not the situ- Mr. Ross and with ideas like giving the Palestinians less but more contiguous land, because he prefers to risk confrontation with Washington rather than with the harder-line right wing in his

own cabinet. That is why, the officials say, Mr. Netanyahu suggests a withdrawal of 10 continued from Page 1

rity." But behind the blaze of rhetoric, the circumstances of Mr. Sharif's death remained mysterious.

Israeli security forces narrowly missed capturing Mr. Sharif when they raided his family's home in East Jerusalem in July 1995.

Israeli security forces narrowly missed capturing Mr. Sharif when they raided his family's home in East Jerusalem in July 1995.

with Mr. Netanyahu, Mr. Clinton and Vice President Al Gore are not convinced that an open confrontation with an elected Israeli prime minister - or his politically active American supportcrs - is the best tactic to pursue, senior

S. officials say. That is why Mr. Clinton reversed himself and sent Mr. Ross out this last time. after Mr. Netanyahu presented some promising new ideas, and why Mr. Netanyahu hopes Mr. Clinton will agree to

send Mr. Ross again. Mr. Netanyahu is trying to hold back concessions for the final peace talks, the goal to which the stalled interim agreement is supposed to be the bridge. But

that trust between the parties is so low The United States has no final plan of that Mr. Arafat is trying to get all the its own, senior White House officials territory he can now, before those talks begin, in case they founder. Senior U.S. officials understand Mr.

Netanyahu's tactics, while regarding them as short-sighted, and the security difference the Israelis insist upon between 13 percent and 11 percent - as essentially spurious.

They believe that Mr. Netanyahu may be willing to make a deal, at the last moment. "only when he has exhausted all other possibilities." one official

And they believe that the U.S. pro-posal, should Mr. Clinton decide to go public with its outlines, will strike most Israelis as eminently reasonable and closer to the Israeli position than the Palestinian one. Going public would create more moral and political pressure on Mr. Netanyahu to agree or make a deal rather than risk an open rupture with the U.S. president.

At stake would be the relationship with the United States and its president, who are regarded as true, unselfish and vital friends of Israel.

· Ma Ellin & amely.

CURRENCY & IN

Even more important, one official said, is that "the relationship with the But despite the general impatience United States is not just friendship, it's the guarantee of Israeli security, and that's important to people.'

An open hattle with Washington was an important reason that a previous Likud prime minister, Yitzhak Shamir, lost the 1992 election, and Israelis are unlikely to thank Mr. Netanyahu for a ruined relationship with Washington over 2 percent of the West Bank that few

Israelis could identify. In the end, Mr. Clinton will have to decide if he thinks Mr. Netanyahu is serious about peace, and if the United States, given all its interests in the Middle East, could ever afford to lay out a plan and then - if it is refused by either side --- declare a "policy review" and, Israeli and Arab officials acknowledge in effect, walk away.

#### BRIEFLY

#### Kocharyan Wins Runoff in Armenia

finister Robert Kocharyan was de- nance within the executive branch. lared the winner of the presidential The Organization for Security and ooperation in Europe said there had een some instances of fraud in the lection Monday but did not question ne outcome.

Some of the 150 observers that the **5 Sentenced to Die** rganization fielded criticized the reon as too soft and said the level of In Guatemala City raud they had witnessed could have ffected the result.

ation's finding. "How many ahuses and instances of

raud do there have to be for the leon?" asked Mr. Demirchyan's cam- crime in Gnatemala. aign chief, Armen Khachatarian. He said Mr. Demirchyan would use

Il legal means to contest the result. With almost all votes counted, Mr. April 18, 1996. Cocharyan, 43, the acting head of state ince the resignation in February of n, who once ran Armenia as its Soviet ransom payments.

'ommunist leader. Aghvan Vartanyan, proclaimed victory, saying, "We have won and won was his magning." y a big margin."

#### Communists Show Gain in Ukraine Vote

KIEV -- The strong showing by the Communists in Ukraine's parliameneffectively, an aide to President Le- ical failures. nid Kuchma said Wednesday.

quarter of the 450 seats in Par- mechanical failures that cause acciiament. Other leftists who capitalized dents and a way to fix them." in falling living standards in their ampaigns also fared well.

he poor lives they lead today, and this oeeded major repairs.

is a good warning for those conducting. a policy of reforms in this country." Since his election four years ago. Mr. Kuchma's promised reforms have been slowed by his deadlock with YEREVAN, Armenia — Prime Parliament and bureaucratic resis-

But Ukraine's economic decline moff election Wednesday, but his has been slowing, and the government hallenger refused to accept the result. says that this year will bring the first growth since the former Soviet republic gained independence in 1991.

GUATEMALA CITY -- Five men The camp of Karen Demirchyan, were sentenced to death and six womne runner-up, disputed the organi- en received 50 years in prison each for kidnapping a businessman and his 8year-old son.

The sentences, imposed Monday, itimacy of the election to be in ques- are part of an effort to attack rising The defendants were found guilty

of seizing Juan Enrique Corzo de la Cerda and his son, Luis Pedro, on

The son was freed after eight days to deliver to anthorities his father's resident Levon Ter-Petrosyan, had finger, which the kidnappers had arn-9.3 percent of the vote, compared putated as a warning. The father was vith 40.7 percent for Mr. Demirchy-released three weeks later after several

# (Reuters) U.S.-Made Copters

MEXICO CITY - The government has grounded 72 aging heli-copters donated by the United States for the war on drugs, saying the aircraft were unsafe.

The Defense Ministry said Tuesday it had ordered the UH-IH helicopters ary elections should force the coun- to stay oo the ground until officials ry's leaders to carry out reforms more could determine the cause of mechan-

'To protect the safety of the crew With nearly all the votes from Sun- and passengers," the ministry said, lay's balloting counted, the Commu- the 72 helicopters "will remain on the list Party was set to occupy more than ground until we establish the nature of

The ministry did not say whether there had been an accident recently. Mr. Kuchma's administration chief. Recent media reports, however, have - evhen Kushnaryov, said, "A mean-suggested the belicopters were dengful quantity of people voted against livered in poor coodition and ofteo

A Palestinian autopsy reportedly March 1996 after the string of suicide found that he had been shot twice in the attacks that followed the assassination of chest and once in the leg about three Mr. Ayyash.

Hamas carried out four bombings But Defense Minister Yitzhak Mor- then, and the attacks were widely creddechai of Israel, who went on television ited with belping Mr. Netanyahu defeat to deny emphatically any link by Israeli the dovish incumbent prime minister. authorities to the killing, suggested that Mr. Sharif might have been killed by a Shimon Peres, in the elections held in

May 1996. bomb he was rigging in the car or per-haps by members of the Palestinian se-Mr. Sharif was to be buried Thursday in Ramallah. Thousands are expected to attend the funeral.

"Muhyiaddin is gone, but someone else will take his place," said his broth-er, Ibrahim. "Yahya Ayyash went, and 10 took his place. Now this one, maybe 1,000 will replace him. The holy war goes on.

# **MINORITIES:** Schools Jettison Diversity

Continued from Page 1

'Muhyiaddin Sharif is a murderer.

'He was responsible for many ter-

one of the greatest criminals and ter-

rorist attacks, but we were not involved

of next year's freshman classes will coosist of minorities, because the applicants have yet to choose where they will go and many will probably be able to go to the smaller state campuses.

The two campuses that are known to be least selective. Riverside and Santa Cruz, reported increases in minority admissions. Moreover, the very top candidates may choose private institutions like Harvard and Stanford, where many may have also been admitted.

The percentage of Asian-Americans, who are oot considered underrepreseoted minorities in California, increased slightly. Asians account for 38.3 percent of freshman admissions at Berkeley this year, up from 35.5 percent last year. At UCLA, they account for 33 percent, a 0.8 percent increase from last year.

Mr. Berdahl, the Berkeley chancellor, and Albert Carnesale, the UCLA chancellor, both said at news conferences that they would try to persuade the minority members admitted to attend their universities and not leave the system or the

state for other institutions.

They said they were concerned that the number of students anending would fall further from those admined because those minority members offered a slot at these campuses are the very top performing students sought after by colleges every-where. Both chancellors said they feared a chilling effect on the attitude of future high school seniors toward California's best state campuses. "Now the challenge before us is, despite this drop in admission in underrepresented minorines, to get the highest possible enrollment so we can maintain the diversity of this campus."



A WURST FOR YOUR THOUGHTS - A German mail deliverer holding a sausage to tame a hostile dog in a photo distributed by the Federal Post Office. It illustrates an April Fool's hoax that postmen will be equipped with such sausages for their daily rounds.

### CLASS: Courting Businessmen, U.S. Airlines Offer Fuller Service for Full-Fare Fliers

Continued from Page 1

special airport lounges.]
The focus in the United States on the

elite, who represent fewer than a tenth of all passengers but contribute more than 40 percent of the industry's revenue. ofteo translates into a decline in service for everyone else. Few airlines are adding workers to staff their new premium services, so budget travelers may have to make do with longer check-in lines and longer waits for baggage.

USAirways recently removed a row planes to make room for a new, luxurious husiness-class service. The distance from row to row in the oew sectioo is 55 inches (130 ceotimeters), a grand canyoo compared with the 31 inches in is reserved for full-fare passengers and coach, where the old seats merely received new covers.

American Airlines announced last coach service is," said Jean Wyman, an empty seat next to them, while pasRead in New York, who flies regularly.

month that it would remove 12 coach seats on many of its planes flying do-seats on many of its planes flying do-timore, which sells self-improvement sengers flying on discount tickets are packed three abreast. sandwich. They also are entitled to use mestic routes, to add six in first class. It audiotapes, also introduced a new top tier in its frequent-flier program, promising special concierge service in Chicago. Dallas. Miami and New York, among other

Both American and TWA have also begun giving more frequent-flier credits choice. "The people who are left out in sey, a TWA executive vice president. to passengers who pay top dollar. TWA, the cold are the leisure travelers who for example, grants an extra mile for each dollar spent on a full-fare ticket.

carry onto certain flights. United, Delta Air Lines and others once routinely let passengers with small children board first. Now that privilege

Northwest Airlines and United Air-

frequent fliers.

to you, "said Ms. Wyman, who was an those who pay the highest fares. elite traveler until she started her own business.

For most travelers, there is little willing to pay a modest amount for that, said Ed Perkins, editor of the

12 times as much. Most major airlines now give prime are not lucky enough to be upgraded to

The airlines deny that they skimp on "The general feeling is, 'If you are service for economy-fare passeogers, sitting in coach, we don't have to be nice saying they are simply offering more to

"I think the principle 'You get what you pay for is recognized in America and around the world," said Donald Ca-

One problem the airlines face is that want something better and would be even with their expansions of first-class. cabins, there are still too few premium seats on many domestic flights, meaning lines have even begun limiting the num- Consumer Reports Travel Letter. "Your that some full-fare passengers end up of coach seats in each of its wide-body ber of bags low-paying passengers can cheap ticket is a very bad product, and if staying in coach. Business travelers comyou want a good product, you pay up to plain that they are then treated the same

as passengers who have paid much less. Sometimes I'm paying \$1,000 in spots in the front of the coach cabin to coach and somebody sitting next to me is business travelers who pay full fares but paying \$300 and we are both getting lousy service." said Peter Schaeffer, a I'm amazed at how poor the general business or first class. They often have stock analyst at SBC Warburg Dillon

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d. "It was a big emetional hat had been min al patiened an une unity Alas. of American Later on the Reverens Marian Luber d more to de the modern than Thomas Jan Tong ic, the assistant of the of rican affairs of showing that Mr. Jack on Streling orn came she shinaned can American I would be

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# 'Big Bang' in Japan Begins Under a Cloud

Tokyo Blasted for Failed Stock Manipulation

By Sandra Sugawara Washington Post Service

TOKYO - After years of manipulating its financial markets, Japan is discovering that it isn't as easy to do so

On Wednesday, the government lifled foreign-currency controls, setting off 'Big Bang' deregulation in an effort in transform Tokyo into a financial center that could rival New York and London. But analysts said that its blatant and relatively unsuccessful attempt just the day before to raise stock prices was a ack to Japan's efforts to improve its readility in financial markets.

They just don't get it." said Craig Chudler, market strategist with Salomon Smith Barney. It's old-style politics. It might have worked before, but it won't work now

Yushiro Ikuyo, an analyst at Com-merzbank, said: The government did unreasonable and incredible things to

'It's old-style politics. It might have worked before, but it won't work now.'

make the stocks look better. From today, bank stocks will decline. There is no other country in the world that ma-nipulates the stock market to this de-

The analysts were referring to efforts Tuesday, the last day of lapan's financial year, to push share prices up on the kikkei stock index so that it would close at 18,003 points or higher. That was the level publicly targeted by the governing Liberal Democratic Party to try to make Japanese companies which count equities as part of their holdings — look more profitable.

But the market failed to cooperate, and the Nikkei closed at 16,527; on Wednesday, stocks fell a further 1.7 percent, to 16,241,66.

The effort, known here as a "pricekeeping operation," astonished many foreign investors who thought Japan was moving to deregulate its financial

The ability of authorities to ma- exports to Asia fall.

nipulate the market is being steadily reduced as we've gone through the 1990s, and it's been further reduced by recent scandals within the Finance Ministry and the Bank of Japan, which have hun the credibility of those institutions," Jason James, head of research at

HSBC in Tokyo, said.
The reason for the Liberal Democrats' apparent obsession with the level of the stock market is that many Japanese companies hold stocks, a cornerstone of Japan's keirersu system in which companies are interlinked in a web of interests, holdings and favors. Companies hold the stock of their muin banks, and, banks hold stocks of their customers.

That means a plunge in stock prices can hurt a company's profit. For instance, Nissan Motor Co. said Wednesday it would incur a \$379 million loss from its stock holdings. Nikko Research estimated that Tuesday's Nikkei close represented a latent loss of \$23 billion for the exchange's 1,188 listed companies, excluding financial concerns, which were allowed to change accounting practices.

Now that the financial year has ended. analysts say bad news kept under wraps before Tuesday may emerge. The market fell Wednesday on news that Dai-Ichi Corp., a financial company, was considering liquidation. "It's been eerily quiet on the bankruptcy front for the last three months," said Mr. James, "I don't know, but because this news came out on April 1, it does perhaps hint that there may be another wave of bankruptcies."

#### ■ Tankan to Reflect Pessimism

The Bank of Japan's tankan business survey, to be released Thursday, is expected to indicate that corporate managers see little bope for recovery in sales and profits as Japan slides toward recession, Bloomberg News reported.

The quarterly survey's main index, which includes responses from more than 700 large manufacturers, could fall to minus 23 in the March survey, worse than the minus 15 registered in December, economists said. That deterioration in confidence - negative numbers show that pessimists outnumber optimists reflects moves by companies to slash output as they watch sales stagnate and

#### **Slimming Down**

World leader in

PACKAGING

Source: Danone SA

Since taking over Danone, the French food conglomerata, Franck Riboud (right) has sold off some of the company's assets in order to focus on its more profitable businesses. Here is the 1997 sales breakdown.

BEVERAGES Including DAIRY PRODUCTS Evian bottled water and Mostly Dannon Kronenbourg beer yogurt and OPERATING MARGIN 42% products **OPERATING** MARGIN OTHER FOOD BISCUITS

were sold at year-end. sweet biscuits including its soup unit to OPERATING MARGIN Campbell, ready-to-eat meals and pasta operations to a group of investors and a candy division to Cadbury Schweppes OPERATING MARGIN OPERATING MARGIN 5.6%

Most of these businesses



# At Danone, Returns of a Prodigal Son

By John Tagliabue New York Times Service

ARIS - When Franck Riboud was named at a shareholders' meeting in 1994 to eventually succeed his father as the head of Danone SA, France's largest food company, the room rocked with catcalls. Though he had spent 13 years working his way up Danone's cor-porate ladder, Franck Riboud had never sbaken his reputation for being something of a beach burn after college. Simple nepotism bad won him the job, the critics said.

But less than four years later, the catcalls have largely turned to kudos. Franck Riboud has managed to transform his father's scattershot collection of food businesses into a lean and focused company with a worldwide reach, one that puts it in the running with the likes of CPC International Inc., Nestle SA and Unilever.

'Shareholders were a bit disappointed at first, thinking he was his father's son," Edouard de Boisgelin, who fol-

lows Danone for Merrill Lynch in London, said. "It turned out the guy is good
— he was the right choice."

It is not that what Franck Riboud has done is so original, his newfound supporters say. It is just that he has executed it well.

By taking a page from John Welch Jr.'s playbook at General Electric Co.,

#### INTERNATIONAL MANAGER Mr. Riboud focused Danone on expanding businesses in which it was

No. 1 — fresh dairy products such as Dannon yogun; cookies and snacks, including the Lu brand, and beverages such as Kronenbourg beer and Evian mineral water.

Mr. Riboud, 42, also got rid of underperforming businesses, such as soups and pasta, and expanded aggressively into Eastern Europe, South America and Asia and has sculpted the name Danone - Dannon in the United States — into a global brand.

"I'm always under pressure to succeed," Mr. Riboud said. "But you need

pressure to achieve. You try harder. Now the question is not whether Mr. Riboud is up to the job, but whether he can maintain the company's pace.

Some analysts are skeptical. It is one thing, they say, to make sense out of a mishmash of a conglomerate and quite another to keep the momentum going for the long term.
"The problem," said Jean-Marie

l'Home, who follows the company for Banque Nationale de Paris, "is that opportunities for growth in Asia and atin America are more and more rare. Either you build businesses yourself, which is time-consuming, or you buy small and big companies and merge them, which is costly."

That Mr. Riboud would wind up anywhere near the chairman's desk, let alone behind it, seemed a preposterous idea two decades ago when he finished technical school as an engineer but decided to follow his real passion windsurfing — and shun the empire his father had built from scratch.

See DANONE, Page 15

# **Zenith Says** It May Face Bankruptcy

TV Maker's Shares Dive After New Loss Is Posted

The Associated Press

CHICAGO - Zenith Electronics Corp., whose bulky television sets once adorned millions of American homes; warned Wednesday it may be forced into bankruptcy as it continues to post

The company reported yet another quarterly loss — this time of \$155.7 million --- and announced it was undertaking what could be a last-ditch restructuring to bring down its costs.

The news sent Zenith's stock plunging \$2 to \$4.625 in late trading on the New York Stock Exchange

The company said that it had secured a line of credit from its majority stock-holder, LG Electronics Inc. of South Korea, that would keep it going through

Zenith has reported only one profitable quarter since 1985.

Jeffrey Gannon, the recently appoinled Zenith chief executive, warned that the company may be forced to seek "out-of-court and in-court financial re-structurings" if LG Electronics refuses to provide additional financing or if Zenith fails to find additional investors.

LG Electronics years ago purchased a majority interest in Zenith, boping that a desire among manufacturers and law-makers to bring digital, crystal-clear television to American viewers would bring Zenith back to its glory days and billions to LG Electronics, which

also makes Samsung products.

But the advent of high-definition television bas been slowed amid wrangling over whether companies should first market the expensive televisions and digital sel-top boxes or cable providers should first switch their systems to provide the necessary signals.

Zenith has in the meantime been bleeding red ink, and analysts have speculated that the Korean financial crisis is likely to force LG Electronics to pull the plug on further financial support.

For the three months ended Dec. 31, Zenith reported a net loss of \$155.7 million, compared with a loss of \$69.3 million a year earlier. Sales fell to \$347.7 million from \$427.6 million.

# Is the Euro 'Condemned to Succeed?'

By Anne Swardson ashington Pest Service

PARIS - The cover of last week's L'Express magazine came with a tiny calculator stuck on it. Programmed to convert between the French franc and the euro, the forthcoming European single currency, the calculators are another sign of the apparent inevitability of the new money.

It appears nothing can prevent 11 of the 15 European Union nations from taking the first steps toward merging their currencies into one at a special EU meeting in Brussels May 1-2. European leaders bave pursued the curo with unswerving dedication for more than seven years.

At the Brussels meeting, the EU leaders can to choose formally the 11 initial euro members — Germany, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium, Spain. Portugal, Luxembourg, Austria, Finland and Ireland.

The single-currency plan will take effect in January, when the euro becomes a currency in the financial sense, trading on international exchanges in place of its 11 predecessor currencies. The actual notes and coins will be introduced over a six-month period starting Jan. 1, 2002, after which the parlicipants' present currencies will cease to be legal tender.

Despite this carefully choreographed imetable, the euro will have many chances to go awry in the months and years to come. Economists in Europe and he United States point out that although there is considerable political impulsion for a single currency, Europe is in some ways far from a model monetary zone.

Cross Rates

onward Rates

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Its economies are fragmented, its people rooted to their home countries, its cultures vastly different, its unemployment high and politically explosive, its polit-

ical powers decentralized. Although the currency marriage is almost certain to be solemnized at the Brussels summit meeting, there are still many ways the match could end in di-

Essentially, say those who have thought through various disaster scenarios, the economic misalignments and weaknesses of the member countries are sure to be brought out by the financial markets at some point. The European Monetary System — a continental ex-change-rate mechanism that forced EU currencies to trade within narrow bands was brought to its knees in 1992. when countries tried to align their currencies more closely than economic fundamentals permitted. In the same way, the euro could be swiftly ripped

apart if gaps start to develop.

The probability of an explosioo is very strong," said Jean-Jacques Rosa, a French economist, who explored the flaws of the euro plan in his new book 'The European Error."

Still, the financial traders of Europe and the United States — those who would move in all any sign of weakness in the new currency — are betting that the euro succeeds. Exchange rates between the planned euro countries are stable and interest rates throughout Europe are coming closer together, signs that the markets trust the currency merger. At Paribas International Markets, the investment firm that prides itself on the most thorough research into possible euro outcomes, analysts brainstorm daily on ways the new currency could go wrong. So far, they have not come up with one that their forecasts show as likely. For the euro to explode, markets will have to lose faith in it, and the political will behind the project is so strong that the markets have been car-

ried along. But even the new currency's strongest proponents acknowledge that the economies of continental Europe have serious structural weaknesses. In addition, the four-year path of transition to the euro presents opportunities for financial speculators.
"We can't quite call the timing on

this one, but something at some point will happen to cause destabilization," said Walter Eltis of Exeter College at Oxford University in Britain and author of a booklet called "The Creation and Destruction of EMU." EMU stands for Economic and Monetary Union. Essentially, say Mr. Rosa and other economists, the euro nations will not have the natural shock absorbers needed to share a currency, and thus an economy.

Unlike in the United Stares, for instance, people who lose their jobs in Europe are not likely to pick up and move long distances to find work. Language and cultural barriers make it much less likely that an auto worker will move from Germany to Spain, for instance, than that a similarly qualified worker will move from Michigan to Tennessee.

In addition, the levers of government used to limit economic misery during recessions will be less available in Europe. Where the U.S. Federal Reserve can reduce interest rates to en-

See EURO, Page 15

April 1

ECU

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#### NATEXIS GROUP IN 1997

#### SUBSTANTIAL GAINS IN BUSINESS ACTIVITY AND NET INCOME. PLUS AN IMPORTANT PRECAUTIONARY **MEASURE TO PROVIDE AGAINST ASIAN EXPOSURE**

■ Progression in gross operating income, up 21.8 % over 1996. ■ 11 % coverage of Asian exposure through a FRF 550 million precautionary general-purpose provision

E Substantial gain is not income, group share: FRF 289 million vs. FRF 98 million to 1996. Recommended dividend per share of FRF 10, or FRF 15,

Including French tax credit. Once again, the past year was characterized in France by weak business to an demand, while favorable conditions continued to prevail in the financial markets. On the international plane, the outbreak of the financial crisis in Asia will remain the year's most notable event.

Against this background, Natexis group produced the following results: COOD HEADWAY IN NET BANKING INCOME (NBD

FOR MOST BUSINESS LINES A commentary on the group's business activity for 1997 was presented in a detailed press release dated January 21, 1998. The final figures for the year confirm very favorable trends for most of the group's business lines. In 1997, net banking income [NBI] for the group's competitive market activities was FRF 3,777 million, representing a 12.8 percent increase over 1996. The greatest increases were recorded by the International on (+25 percent), Private Equity (+135 percent), Private Banking,

and M & A Advisory Services. Revenues generated from Specialised Financing increased by 8 percent.

NBI from Market Activities, Asset Management, and Brokerage rose
6 percent to FRF 856 million (accounting for 21 percent of total NBU,
thanks in particular to good performances by Natexis Capital in the stock
market brokerage field and ABM Corp. in trading mortgage-backed-

securities in the United States. As in previous years, corporate lending and services in France conten with very sharp competition which squeezed profit margins and led to a 6 percent decline in NBL Nevertheless, by optimizing its business base. Natexis strengthened its market share in its main product lines, especially in the cash management and payment services area.

Finally, the programmed reduction of institutional activity on behalf of the French State and the decline in revenues from corporate treasury diluted the improvement in the group's NBi. Despite these elements. however, total 1997 Natexis group net banking income amounted to FRF 4,158 million, 5.8 percent above the 1996 figure.

TIGHT EXPENSE CONTROL AND SHARP RISE IN GROSS OPERATING INCOME

Concurrent with its business expansion, the group continued to implement the expense reduction program initiated in mid-1996. Staffing was reduced to 3,313 full-time equivalent employees by year and 1997, due to a sharp cutback in France (down by 8 percent over an 18-month period); meanwhile, outside France, the group work force continued to

were down by 3.9 percent. The combination of rising revenues and reduced expenses led to a strong increase in gross operating income, up 21.8 percent over the previous year to FRF 1.461 million.

All together, expenses for the year were FRF 2,677 million, 1.4 percent

below the 1995 figure. Expenses associated with operations in France

SUBSTANTIAL PRECAUTION PROVISION TO COVER EXPOSURE At year-and 1997 the group's total exposure for the five countries affected by the financial crisis in Asia (South Korea, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia,

■ Fine performances by the group's competitive market activities and the Philippines) was USD 1,390 million; repayments since then through February 28, 1998 have reduced that figure to USD 1,230 million approximately 3 percent of total Natexis outstandings.

The group's exposure to these countries comes to USD 856 million, excluding exposure guaranteed ultimately by leading international names or secured by cash, and excluding trade financing (letters of credit confirmations), but including sovereign and similar risk esia and Thailand. The main country concerned is South Korea which accounts for 38 percent of the group's exposure, followed by Thailand (26 percent), and Indonesia (24 percent).

Natexis is not directly at risk either in the Asian real estate, stock, foreign axchange, or financial markets. No particular credit risk has to this day required the establishment of provisions in relation to this crisis. Following a detailed analysis of its portfolio, the group remains confident in the quality of its overall exposure. Nevertheless, as a precaution, and to preserve its margins in the face of a possible deterioration in the preserve its margins in the face or a possible deterioration in the condition of certain counterparties or countries, the Board of Oirectors has decided to increase general-purpose provisions by a substantial amount and to withdraw FRF 200 million from the Fund for general banking risk in order to provide an 11 percent cover for the group's exposure to Asian risks. The amount of general-purpose provisions is thus increased from FRF 304 million to FRF 926 million, FRF 550 million of which are earmarked for Asia.

#### CONSOLIDATED NET INCOME IS PAISED FROM FRF 98 MILLION TO FRF 289 MILLION

Other factors having a significant hipping on the group's year-end income provisions established during the first half of the year following the French Banking Commission's technical inspection mission. On the full year, the main headings affected are those concerning provisions for specific credit risks (under additional provisions) and share in equity

affiliates, marking to market the group's property holdings (excluding rusiness premises): cusiness presences):

disposal of the group's 66 percent lightest in Alfi Gestion. This sale occurred at the end of December 1993 and produced the bulk of the FRF 227 million in net gains on long-term investments;

is spawing from the Fund for general backing risk amounting to FRF 804 million including FRF 604 million for the first half of 1997]; a high teachbarge [FRF 237 million] principally due to the high proportion of met accome generated by group entities operating outside France and therefore not included in the tax group.

Overall, net income group share for 1997 stands at FRF 289 million, as compared with FRF 98 million the year before. The Board of Directors will recommend the payment of a net director per share of ERF 10 (FRF 15, including French

Can Create and the Committee of the Comm				
KEY FIGURES				
(in FRF millions)	1.096	1997	Change	
Net banking income (N8I) of which NBI from competitive	3,939%	4 68	+ 5.8%	
market activities	3,359	3,777	# 12.5%	
Gross operating income	1,224	1,493	2 2 30%	
Net Income, group share	98	289	+ 196%	
(In FRF billions)				
Total assets	288	299		
Total shareholders' equity	17.4	17.4		
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EU capital adequacy Directive



### **CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES**

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1336   2341   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30   72.30	ML 30-dry R-A SUI 5.07 10-year cer 5.91 5.90
Differ Dolliar Values   Pers   Currency   Pers   Per	1-year T-ball   4.99   5.11   5.12   Intervention rate   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30   3.30

68-6TY

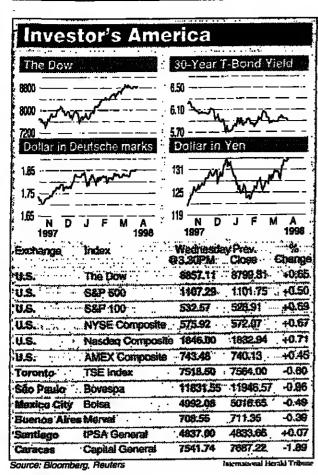
132.26

1.6625 Japaneso yea 1.4149 Swiss franc 1.8419

VC Bank (Amsterdam): Cera Investment Bank (Brussels): Banca Commercio Tal: Banque de Franco (Parts): Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubikh (Tokyo): Rayal Ba Inla: InJF (SDR), Other data from the Associated Press, Bioomberg and Reu

131.**70** 1*-*5152

#### THE AMERICAS



#### Very briefly:

 Columbia/HCA Healthcare Corp., which is the target of a federal fraud investigation, also is under scrutiny from the Securities and Exchange Commission over possible violations

•A computer glitch at the Chicago Board of Trade halted trading of grain and soybean futures contracts for nearly an hour. The software problem shut down the system for up-dating quotes, displaying them for traders and transmitting them to outside sources.

•MCI Communications Corp. will delay filing its 1997 annual report because of a dispute with the SEC about the timing of a fourth-quarter charge that resulted in a quarterly

 AMR Corp.'s American Airlines plans to order at least seven more 777 jets, valued at as much as \$1 billion, from Boeing Co. as the airline adds routes to Asia, The airline already was scheduled to receive seven B-777s in 1999.

· Teradyne Inc. plans to expand its computer-chip testing business in Agoura Hills, California, and hire 300 workers by year's end to meet increasing demand.

#### GTECH to Sell Stake in U.K. Lottery

The Associated Press

LONDON -- GTECH Holdings Corp., a U.S. lottery operator, said Wednesday it would sell its stake in Britain's lottery after coming under heavy fire when its former chairman lost a sensational libel trial.

Regulators have been trying to determine whether GTECH was "fit and proper" to retain a role in the National Lottery, the world's largest, but the company bowed out as a sbareholder before any ruling was made.

GTECH's partners in the lottery agreed to purchase the company's 22.5 percent stake for £51 million (\$85.4 million), according to statements from GTECH and Camelot, the consortium GTECH assembled to run the games.

April 1, 1998

Grains

CORN (CBOT)

WHEAT (CBOT) 5.000 bu minumum

High Low Latest Chae Opini

-26 -27 -27 -48 -48

# Strong Economic Data Propel a Wall Street Rally

Curevited by Our Staff From Disparches NEW YORK -- Stocks rose Wednesday after reports showed a strong U.S. economy with little threat of inflation.

The Dow Jones industrial average was 55.30 points higher in late trading at 8,855.11. The Standard & Poor's 500 index was up 4.04 points at 1,105.80. Gaining issues outnumbered losing ones by a 4-to-3 ratio on the New York Stock Exchange.

The National Association of Purchasing Management said its monthly index of business activity rose to 54.8 in March from 53.3 in February. The group's prices-paid in-dex — a gauge of inflation fell to 44.4 from 45.8.

The Conference Board, a private research group, said

percent in February, the Tuesday also encouraged in-seriously consider moving, my's enduring strength.

#### U.S. STOCKS

"We are very much in agreement the economy is extremely strong — but the story is inflation," said Lawrence is inflation, Pavelec at M&I Investment Management Corp. "There continues to be pressure to

keep prices stable or lower." In the Treasury bond market, the price of the benchmark 30-year issue rose 17/32 point to 103 6/32, sending the yield down to 5.90 percent

from 5.93 perceot Tuesday. The decision by Federal

### **Dollar Gains as Tokyo** Fails to Talk Up Yen

NEW YORK -- Strong

verbal support from Tokyo failed Wednesday to revive the ven, which sank to a threemonth low against the dollar. Efforts by Japanese officials
— including "Mr. Yen,"
Deputy Finance Minister

Eisuke Sakakibara — to shore FOREIGN EXCHANGE

up the ven had no lasting impact on a currency weighed down by a host of negative factors. The dollar rose to 133.675 yen in 3 P.M. trading from 133,130 yen Tuesday. Mr. Sakakibara and Fi-

nance Minister Hikaru Matsunaga expressed worries about the yen's drop and said Japanese authorities were set market took as a signal they were prepared to intervene,

But analysts said the year would oeed more than verbal intervention to give it a significant lift, beset as it was by the bleakness of the Japanese economy and uncertainty over financial-market changes.

'Sakakibara has ohviously put the threat of intervention back into the market, but it won't be sufficient to turn around the dollar/yen up- quirements.

High Low Latest Chge Optat

Jun 98 103.80 103.45 103.56 — 0.06 99,240 Sep 98 103.32 103.05 103.12 — 0.06 211

ITALIAN GOVERNMENT BONG (LIFFE)
ITL 200 pullion - ph of 100 pcf
Jun 98 11-18, 18.19, 119.05 — 0.96 127.212
Sep 98 N.T. N.T. 119.39 — 0.96 8.021
Est, soles: 31,623, Prov. soles: 55,913
Prev. open lot.: 135,233 off 4,983

EURODOLLARS (CMER)
SI million-pls of 106 pcf
Apr 98 94.32 94.31 94.32 un
May 98 94.31 94.30 un
Jun 99 94.30 94.29 94.20 un
Jun 99 94.30 94.29 94.27 un
Jul 98 94.27 94.26 94.27 94.26 un
Dec 98 94.27 94.26 94.27 94.26 un
May 99 94.16 94.17 94.16 90
May 99 94.16 94.17 94.16 90
Jun 99 94.16 94.17 94.16 90
Jun 99 94.16 94.10 94.17 40
Dec 99 94.02 94.09 94.11 94.07 40
Est. soles N.A. Turts soles 37.872
Turts open Mil 2.788.409, af 4.991

INTERNATIONAL FUTURES

Est soles: 65,864, Open Int.: 99,451 o

·2.00 19,805 ·1.95 7,739 ·1.85 4,129 ·1.75 3,477

2.552 26.414 2.400 11,497 1,562 5,060 1,232 1,197 9,211

ONCANO 9 02. dollors per lroy 02. 301.70 2797.10 2792.50 8 304.56 301.60 301.90 1 304.56 301.60 301.90 1 304.00 303.70 304.00 311.60 307.60 308.00 311.60 311.60 311.60 311.60

HI GRAO E COPPER (NCMX)
25,000 Ups. cents per b.

Apr 98 78.40 76.15 76.15 3.15

May 98 80.10 16.20 76.10 115

July 98 80.65 77.10 77.55 2.95

July 98 80.65 77.10 77.55 2.95

Aug 98 77.80 77.80 78.60

Cor 98 81 06 77.70 78.15 2.90

Sep 98 81 06 77.70 78.50 2.90

Sep 98 81 06 77.70 78.60 2.75

Dec 98 81.97 78.55 78.90 2.25

Est. sales 20.000 Tue's sales 7,189

Tues open inf 67.912, off 556

trend, though it may slow it down," said Jane Foley of Barclays Capital.

Pressure on the ven may be compounded if the Bank of Japan's quarterly tankan survey on husiness sentiment. scheduled to be released Thorsday, matches the gloomy expectations for it.

The dollar also rose against European currencies. In late trading, it was at 1.8524 Deutsche marks, up from 1.8480 DM on Tuesday, at 1.5330 Swiss francs, up from 1.5220 francs, and at 6.2065 French francs, up from 6.1940 francs. The pound slipped to \$1.6712 from \$1.6715.

Still, some analysts said Germany's economy was showing signs of inflation, which might prompt a rise in to act - comments that the interest rates and lift the mark "at some point,

#### To Our Readers

Because of the seven-hour time difference between New York and Paris this week, the U.S. stock tables, the U.S. futures and some other items in this edition reflect early prices. This change is necessary to meet distribution re-

its index of future economic Reserve policymakers to hold see a marked slowdown in hurt earnings. CompUSA fell Celeron chip was slower in activity was up a sharp 0.4 rates steady at their meeting April, at that point they will

strongest rise in a year and vestors. But some analysts said Martin Regalia, an econ-another sign of the econo- said the central bank might omist of the U.S. Chamber of raise rates after its next meet- Commerce. ing May 19, especially if there is no convincing sign soon that the Asian financial

crisis is having an impact on which have been market lead- just a year ago." ers, were held back after

51/s to 21.

"Companies are producing negative surprises at an rate." increasing Richard Eakle, an independ-Worries about corporate ent market strategist in Fair profits also kept investors on Haven, New Jersey. "Busi-

"If the first quarter is rea- Comp-USA said falling PC World magazine said the percent this week. sonably strong and they don't prices and higher costs would company's new lower-priced

rival chip from Advanced Mi-

cro Devices. Philip Morris was the most actively traded stock, falling 1 11/16 to 40 after the Senate approved a resolution to deny edge. Technology stocks, ness isn't as robust as it was legal relief to cigarette makers sued for health rea-Intel fell 15/16 to 771/s after sons. The stock has fallen 7

(AP, Bloomberg)

# Ad Agencies Ponder Problem: Success

By Carol Marie Cropper New York Times Service

the U.S. economy.

NEW YORK --- Executives at Sicola Martin, an advertising agency in Austin, Texas, have a problem: Business is booming, and their high-technology clients' business is booming, too.

How is that a problem? Just try finding and then holding onto talented workers, they say, echoing a lament heard throughout the advertising industry.

"We're often training people only to lose them," said Barbara Matijevich, a spokeswoman at the \$53 million agency. "We lose a lot of people to the high-tech companies themselves.\* Sicola Martin — facing fierce com-

petition for workers from computer companies as well as within the adaround the United States say recruiting good people has been more difficult in the past couple of years.

Many blame the industry itself, in part at least, for the crunch.

Burtch Drake, president and chief executive of the American Association of Advertising Agencies in New York, said that during the recession of the late 1980s and early 1990s, agencies stopped hiring and laid off the middle managers they now needed.

"We're now paying the penalty for that," he said. "We sort of lost a whole generation of new people. Anne Melanson, director of human

#### Companies are fighting to retain talented staff.

resources at the Bates Worldwide unit of Cordiant Communications Group PLC, a \$6 hillion agency based in New vertising industry — may be having a York, said that some of those lost work-particularly tough time. But executives ers became freelancers and were now

quite happy on their own. About 10 percent of the people her agency would like to hire were freelancing, she said. have jumped to lucrative jobs at con- their old agencies.

sulting firms and in corporate marketing departments, leaving lagging agency salaries behind, Mr. Drake said.

Camille Weas, human resources manager at Campbell Mithun Esty in Minneapolis, an \$863 million agency that is majority-owned by the Interpublic Group of Companies, said Campbell Mithun stopped shopping for young MBAs in the late '80s because advertising salaries were no

longer competitive. D'Arcy Masius Benton & Bowles Communications in New York, the flagship of MacManus Group, doubled its new-worker bounty to \$1,000 last year, said Leslie Engel, human resources director. Ms. Engel said, it took perhaps twice as long to fill a

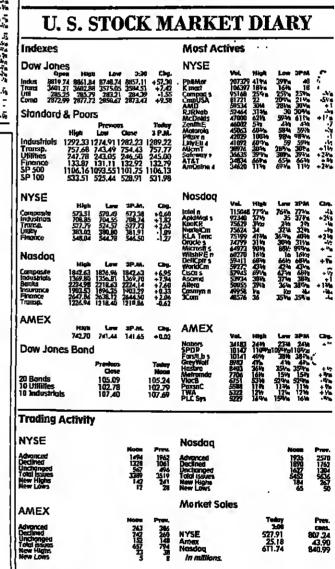
vacancy as it once did. All this would seem to be good news for recruiting firms at least --- except for one thing. Robert Herman, of the Robert Herman Co. in New York, said he lost about \$200,000 in fees last year As the economy has improved, others as prospective hires were lured back by

#### **AMEX**

Wednesday's 3 P.M. The 300 most traded stocks of the day.

515 3990 163 495 97 972 123 1216 1216 1216 1216 1216 1216 1216	237 574 14 9 14 17 15	7319 519 27-2 1350s 8-1 17 180 100	25 5 14 B 1 2 17	يد ودن راي
123 435 97 22 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12	73 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> 14 15 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> 17	135% 8-1 17 18 100	2271 14 872	بر آ
西部の日本の	140 241 17 1574	135% 17 17 170 180	la Bin	4
250 PER	15°4 15°4	179 179 1841		-7.
123 420 1216	15%	TAVE	.2	
1216	15%	1017		
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974	3373	27.7 18.7	1074	·[1
5/4	104	14	14	+ 18
144	1127	114	Пž	112
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7777				
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154	2134 47-a	207	214	4
594	7 -	AFA	644	7.
140	8	71	73	49
120		8.1		
291	TVi	100	114	- 75
767	2049			بند وا -
225	977	U14	9	
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371	,	674		
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Low Latest Orga



Dividends c .0172 3-31 3-31 - .22 4-10 4-29 REVERSE STOCK SPLIT INCREASED U.S. Stock Tables Explained current week, but not the to percent ormore has been p stacks only. Unless otherwi the katest declaration. a - dividend also extra (s). b - annual rate of dividend idend. c - liquidating dividend. cc - PE exceeds 99. cd - called.

Am Restourent
Enermork Inco o
Fet Home Brop
Fet United Corp
Honcock Pet Glib
Interstore Baker
Long Island ancp
Menhar Corp
Menhar Corp
Menhar Reco
PotyGram NV
Texarkano Fet
WPL Holdings
d- to be paid if mer Q .14 4-4 4-24 Q .065 4-13 4-27

p - Initial dividend, annual rate unknown P/E - price-earnings ratio.
q - clased-ead mutual fund.
r - dividend declared or paid in preceding 12 months, plus stock dividend.
s - stock spiil. Dividend begins with date of call!

ww - with worrants.

x - ex-dividend or ex-rights.

xis - ex-distribution.

xw - without worrants.

- ex-dividend and sales in full.

STATE OF THE STATE

Sales High Low Labor Cirgo College of the colleg

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ngf he j

PORK BELLIES (CMER)
40.000 fibs. cents per fb.
Mary 95 53 00 51.55 52.80 40.07
Jul 98 51.05 49.75 50.85 40.10
Aug 98 49.05 47.45 48.20 40.5
Est sides 2.508 Tuers solitos 2.929
Tuers open and 9.205, up e FOO COCOA INCSE) 10 metric tens- \$ por ten May 98 1645 1622 194 8 1647 1642 5ep 78 1649 1641 Dec 98 1708 1692 May 99 1730 1772 May 99 1735 1772 For color 8551 1774 color COFFEE C ONCS E)
37,500 fbs.- cerab per fb.
May 98 140,25 142,25 142,75
Jul 98 141,25 137,90 137,70
Sep 98 135,75 132,96 137,00
Dec 98 129,50 127,00 137,00
May 97 126,50 1723,75 123,75

74.70 73.65 74.65 74.40 73.15 14.35 76.95 15.85 76.81 77.15 16.98 77.15 78.25 77.15 78.15 78.25 77.70 78.50

HOGS-Laray (CMER) 40,000 lbs - certs par lb. Apr 98 53.06 52 10 Jun 98 99.70 58.00 Jun 98 58.50 57.80 Aug 99 56.30 55.55 Oct 98 53.60 53.05

-2.50 -2.30 -1.55 -1.55 -1.80

CANAGIAN GOLLAR (CMER)
100,000 dollars, 5 per Cdn. dr.
Jun 98 7082 7052 7055 7085-0,0009 2,555
Sen 98 7072 7075 7085-0,0009 2,555
Dec 98 7110 7110 7110-0,0019 1,485
Est sides NA. Tues 306es 13,401
Tue's open Int 1, off 52,800 PLATINUM (NMER)
50 froy ac. dollars per froy cc.
Apr 98 412.00 407.00 499.50 +1.06
Jul 98 403.50 400.50 400.30 +0.50
Oci 98 407.50 400.50 401.00 unch.
Jun 99 400.50 980.50 396.00 unch.
Apr 99 390.00 396.00 396.00 unch.
Esis sales N.A. Tuors solles 3,753
Tues open int 13,571, up 252 JAPANESE YEN (CAMER)
12.5 million yen; 5 per 106 yen;
Jun 18 1615 75-8 75-9 -0.0025 76-527
Sep 76 7685 76-5 75-9 -0.0026 77-50
Dec 76 77-90 77-90 77-90 77-90 77-90 77-90
Est. soles N.A. Tue's soles 16-971
Tue's open bu 1, off 98,272 SWISS FRANC (CMER) 125,000 hanes, 5 per hane Jun 98 6537 .6567 .6579 -0.0039 Sep 98 .662 .6640 .6642 -0.0044 Dec 98 .4722 unch. MEXICAN PESO (CMER) 500,000 pesos, 5 por page Jun 98 . 11425 . 11390 . 11420 + .00177 17,840 5ep 98 . 1100 . 11012 . 11037 + .00227 5,959 Dec 98 . 10670 . 10670 . 10670 + .06142 6,733 Financial U0 T BILLS (CMER)
SI auRon- pts of 100 pct.
Jun 98 95.13 95.09 95.12 +0.03
Sop 98 95.08 95.08 95.09 +0.02 \$100,000 prin- pts & 122-bit of 106 pct Jun 98 112-22 112-09 112-22 + 10 457,504 \$cp 98 112-25 112-15 112-25 + 10 12-238 Est. sates NLA Tuos sates 01,791 Tur's open lint 473,916, up 4,630

US TREASURY BONDS (CBOT) (8 pct-\$100,000-pts 8, 12nds of 100 pch Jun 98 120-34 120-02 120-24 + 16 676,336 \$69 98 120-24 119-27 120-14 + 16 71,477 Occ 98 120-02 119-18 120-02 + 14 17,253 Mar 97 119-12 unch. 106 Est. soles N.A. Tuers soles 342,404 Tuers open int 765,405, up 1,227 LONG GILT (LIFFE) £50,000 - pts & 37nds of 106 pci Jun 98 108-10 108-00 108-02 --0-04 218,170

250 x indax Jun 98 1117.301104.061111.00 +6.50 3 5ep 98 1126.701117.801126.70 +4.30 Dec 99 1136.701129.001136.00 +1.40 3-MONTH EUROMARK (LIFFE)

3-MONTH EUROMARK (LIFFE)

DAI IMBION - pis of 100 pcf

Agr 98 96.300 96.300 96.300 -0.025

May 99 96.300 96.300 96.300 -0.030

Jun 98 96.300 96.300 96.300 -0.030

Sep 99 96.140 96.000 96.100 -0.000 35

Dec 99 95.755 95.855 95.795 -0.070 37

May 79 95.805 95.755 95.775 -0.070 37

Jun 99 95.805 95.755 95.775 -0.070 17

Jun 99 95.805 95.755 95.775 -0.070 17

Sep 99 95.80 95.90 95.300 -0.020 16

Sep 99 95.80 95.90 95.300 -0.020 16

May 100 95.300 95.300 -0.020 16

Est suios: 298.640 Pray suios: 257.962

Prey open Mr.: 21.47.583 up 11.669

2-MONTH PIBOR (MATIF)
FF5 million - pls nt 106 pcl
Apr 98 94.35 96.35 96.35 -0.01 180
Jun 98 94.36 96.21 96.22 -0.02 72,431
Sep 98 94.11 94.06 96.06 -0.02 33,198
Dec 98 94.11 94.06 95.06 -0.02 33,198
Dec 98 94.94 95.98 95.96 -0.02 42,009
Jun 99 95.45 95.42 95.44 -0.01 15,847
Sep 99 95.45 95.42 95.44 -0.01 15,847
Sep 99 95.45 95.47 95.57 -0.02 13,437
Est. solos: 38,578.
Open Int.: 249,077 up 708. 3-MONTH EUROLIRA (LIFFE) ITL 1 million - pis at 100 pci Jon 96 95.37 95.31 95.77 —0.03 228,940

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#### EUROPE

# Paris Gets **EUDeadline** On Lyonnais Asset Sales

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Bloomherg News

BRUSSELS - France has one month to propose asset sales by Credit Lyonnais SA. after which the bank may have to repay part of the state aid received in a 100 billion franc (\$16.14 billion) bailout, the European Commission said Wednesday.

The 20-member commission, the European Union's executive agency, unanimously voted to step up pressure on the French government, signaling its increasing frustration at the rising cost of rescuing Credit Lyonnais. Europe's most expensive bailout. The commission said it would send a letter to the government setting its conditions for clearing the bailout, the first time it has made such a move.

The commission could order the state-controlled bank to repay the 6.6 billion francs it has received since 1995, when EU antitrust officials cleared the first part of a government rescue, if no agreement has been reached by the time the oncmonth deadline has elapsed.

"Things are heating up," said Marc Louvet, deputy di-rector-general at the credit rating agency Fitch IBCA in Paris. "I'm positive a solution will be found, as it's inconceivable that Credit Lyonnais will repay the state aid. This is last-minute

haggling."
Dominique Strauss-Kahn. France's finance minister, refused to say whether France would meet the one-month deadline. The minister said talks would continue with the commission until a solution was found that satisfied all parties. France has agreed to sell its controlling stake in the bank, probably next year, ending years of state subsidies.

Credit Lyonnais' shares fell 5 francs, or 0.9 percent, to close

# Prices Rise as Yugoslavia Devalues Dinar

BELGRADE - The government

devalued the Yuguslav dinar by 45 percent Wednesday, prompting an automatic increase in gasoline and other prices in the already strapped

The federal government exaimed at achieving market stability. The governor of the central bank, Dusan Vlatkovic, said the devaluation would "climinate the black market and stimulate exports."

But black-market vendors adjusted their rates and continued selling and buying foreign currencies on the streets. The dinar had been changing hands on the black market at 5.0 to 5.2 Deutsche marks before the official devaluation. Afterward, blackmarket rates were 6.0 to 6.3 DM.

The devaluation, which put the dinar at 6.0 DM compared with 3.3

is a direct result of the devaluation. "inflation will be unavoidable, especially in the immediate period

The ripples were felt as far away plained the move as a measure as Costa Mesa, California, where between the official and the black-ICN Pharmaceuticals Inc. said it expected a second-quarter loss of as much as \$27 million because of the devaluation. ICN, which gets about Yugnslavia said it would imme-

diately apply to raise prices there. The lower dinar rate could help exporters in the short run because they produce mostly low-quality goods, which require few imported raw materials, and expensive goods, which will become more attractively priced abroad.

inflation and price rises. Even Prime decline in already modest monthly million in February. Yugoslavia's Minister Radojc Kontic warned that carnings, which stood at around 200 Deutsche marks (\$109) on average before the devaluation.

Yugoslav economists first called on the central bank to devalue the dinar in November, when the spread market rate started to widen. They insisted the old rate of 3.3 dinar to the Deutsche mark could not be sustained by the state, which had a \$10 30 percent of its sales from billion external debt, a \$2.4 billion trade gap, more than 100 billion dinars in domestic debt.

Economists have often argued that the central bank's hard-currency reserves are too lean to defend the dinar at any rate since it does not have enough hard currency to cover one month of imports. The central bank does not disclose its foreign-But for the average citizen, the exchange reserves, but independent

trolled company that bas long been unprofitable, the link-up with GEC-

Marconi, a subsidiary of General

Electric Co of Britain, is part of a

larger plan to become a financial

holding company for various ven-

half of the new entity, which would

operate as a bolding company over-

seeing Brinsh and Italian units con-

taining some of the businesses of the

two parents, notably civil radar sys-

tems, guided missiles and battlefield

(AFP, Bloomherg)

command systems

Each of the founders would own

tures with international partners.

DM before the move, raised fears of new rate will mean a substantial estimates put them at around \$250 monthly import bill amounts to al-(AP, Reuters, Bloomberg)

#### ■ The Zloty Moves On

The Polish government on Wednesday approved a new foreign-exchange law to make the zloty convertible for most foreign trade transactions and allow its purchase abroad. Bloomberg News reported

The draft legislation, which must be approved by the Sejm, or lower house of Parliament, allows payments in zloty for foreign goods and services. The law also allows zloty to be purchased in other countries. It is a step toward making the zloty fully convertible by 2000 as Poland opens its market and adjusts legislation to meet European Union norms.

#### Vickers Denies Getting New VW

Offer For Rolls

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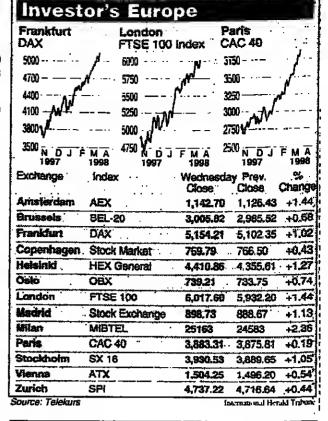
LONDON — Vickers PLC.
owner of Rolls-Royce Motor Cars Ltd., on Wednesday denied having received a revised offer for the luxury carmaker from Volkswagen AG after selecting VW's German rival BMW AG as the preferred bidder.

Vickers said reports that it had received a revised VW bid and was holding talks with the company had "no substance,"

The statement contradicted comments made Tuesday by Rolls-Royce's chief executive, Graham Morris, who said in Germany that a new VW offer had been made. Vickers said Wednesday that this was wrong and gave what it called the "official" version of events.

Vickers said it had entered into four weeks of exclusive talks with Dayerische Motoren Werke ...... which was selected as the preferred bidder Monday. BMW made a £340 million (\$569.4 million) offer for

Rolls-Royce. Vickers said it was "not in discussions" with any other



#### Very briefly:

· British Airways PLC will raise its stake in the German airline Deutsche BA to 100 percent from 65 percent by buying stakes from Bankgesellschaft Berlin AG and Com-merzbank AG; the price was not disclosed.

• RWE AG will buy Huels AG, the detergents and solvents business of VEBA AG, for between 500 million and 600 million Deutsche marks (\$271 million to \$326 million) to try to gain market share in bulk chemicals.

 French new-car registrations rose 20.9 percent in March compared with the same month last year. Economists said the figures provided evidence that stronger consumer spending would help fuel economic growth this year.

 British Midland Airways posted pretax profit for 1997 of £17.3 million (\$28.9 million), up from £6.1 million in 1996; on a 10.7 percent increase in sales, to £529.3 million. The carrier, which is 40 percent owned by Scandinavian Airline System and 60 percent by a group of investors, said alliances with 17 international airlines had helped it surmount increased. competition from new low-cost carriers.

 Lloyds TSB Group PLC will take a first-half loss of £100 million on the sale of its Black Horse estate agencies, Lloyds TSB sold the business, the fourth-largest real-estate agency chain in Britain, to Bradford & Bingley Building Society for

 Independent Newspapers PLC posted a 36 percent increase in pretax profit for 1997, to a record 100 million Irish punts (\$73.6 million). The group last month took control of the unprofitable British newspaper The Independent.

 De La Rue PLC, the world's biggest supplier of banknotes, plans to break its banknote division into four separate units in a drive to improve profit in an industry plagued by oversupply.

The company issued a profit warning in February that;
triggered a 25 percent drop in its share price in one day.

### Finmeccanica Posts Loss for '97

ROME — Finmeccanica posted a net loss Wednesday of 2.35 trillion lire (\$1.29 billion) for 1997 but said an agreement for a joint venture between its Alenia subsidiary and GEC-Marconi Ltd. of Britain would be

"concluded guickly." Finmeccanica's results were hit by exceptional charges of 1.629 trillion lire for restructuring. In 1996, the company had a loss of 540 billion lire. Its sales last year rose 10 percent, to 15.282 trillion lire.

The new entity would be the biggest manufacturer of defense

higgest such company in the world. It would have annual sales of more than 2.7 utillion lire and employ 9,500 people. An agreement would mark an-

systems in Europe and the third-

other step toward consolidation of Europe s weapons industry to match a wave of U.S. mergers. The U.S. linkups have produced companies such as Lockheed Martin Corp. and Boeing Co., powerful rivals for contracts because of their lean cost structures and large research

For Finmeccanica, a state-con-

# Swiss Take Aim at Money Laundering

The Associated Press

BERN - Seeking to shed its image as a haven for ill-gotten gains, Switzerland on Wednesday closed a loopbole that allowed money-launderers to skirt previous restrictions. Under the new law, which took effect Wednesday, Swiss banks and

other money managers are required to report to federal authorities any "well-founded suspicion" about the source of deposits. In response to its own embar-

Switzerland has been working for

years to tighten its laws against yers and other money managers, money laundering and to return to who for the first time come under

suspicions to the government.

and freeze the assets. rassment and international pressure,

only to banks. In the past, bankers have tended

activities of their customers. Reports are to be made to a special branch of the Federal Office of Police Affairs, which may then pass the matter on to prosecuting authorities.

Any finance professional, including insurers, who fails to comply will be liable for a fine of 200,000

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other countries any dubious money other rules that previously applied brought here by foreign rulers. The change brings Switzerland up to basic international standards to balk at looking too closely into the for dealing with money laundering. In a 1994 amendment to Switzerland's banking-secrecy law, bankers were given the legal right to report

Under the change, they are now required to report those suspicions The change also applies to law- Swiss francs (\$129,450).

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party. "There have been no more new offers," it said. 344 339 343 3 265 199 205 1 379 375 377.50 3 245 243 245 2 287 285 287 2 299 775 799 7 464 431 331.50 135. 137 135 136 4 61.

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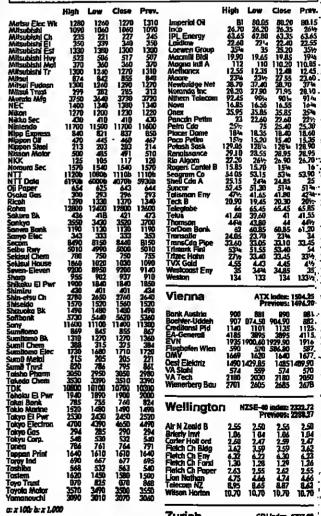
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The Trib Index Prices as of 3.00 P.M. New York Inne. year to date % change World Index + 12.90 Regional Indexe Europe +0.72248.68 -- 0.45 - 0.65 + 0.09 + 0.20 aid Tribune World Stock Indox © tracks the U.S. dollar value envestable stocks from 25 countries. For more information, able by writing to The Trib Indox, 181 Avenue Charles de Codox, France Compiled by Bloomberg News.



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By Thomas Crampton

International Herald Techune

The watershed deal will serve as a

model for similar arrangements un-

der discussion in other troubled

countries in the region, said Mitsuo Sato, president of the bank.

land's central bank and the Export-Import Bank of Thailand to help

manufacturers finance the produc-

Although the majority of Thai

exports rely on short-term financing

for raw materials, no loans have

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Fund, which brokered Indonesia's \$43 billion international aid package, has been pushing the government to overhaul the bank-

operating on different cycles.

debut in optimal times. Economic

growth on the Continent is healthy for the first time in seven years. Oil

is that the euro will be a success.

has been liquidated.

when the euro is in place. They will collapsing currencies and political be replaced by the European Central recriminations, they say. Bank, which will set monetary The euro, said Thierry de Mont-policy for all 11 countries, even brial of the French Institute for In-oine, named him to the No. 2 position though national economies may be ternational Relations, "is con-

The single currency is making its

German Skeptic Files Suit

for the first time in seven years. Oil European integration and a former the shares, il was noted, and at 40, prices and interest rates are histor- European Commission official, filed Franck Riboud was considered by ically low. That's good for now, but a petition to the Germany's highest many to be too young to run if any of those factors reverses itself court on Wednesday seeking to stop Europe's third-largest food comthe weaker euro members could be German participation in the single pany, after Nestle and Unilever.

among the single currency's backers

ADB Aid May Be Model for Other Deals concern that Thai manufacturers could no longer affurd to impurt necessary raw materials. "The portfolio guys were the first to come back to the stock market in

Thailand's Exporters

Get \$1 Billion Loan

BANGKOK - The Asian Development Bank announced Wednesday that it would lead a con-January; now we bankers are resortium of 64 international banks to turning too," said Henry Ho, Thai grant a \$1 billion syndicated loan to country manager for Citibank. Thai exponers, the first such loan The bankers said they were consince Asia's economic crisis began

fident in joining in the syndicated loan because of recent economic reforms pushed through by the government and because of the development bank had guaranteed the in-terest and principal for the first three years of the five-year loan.

The loan is the first syndicated David Manhews, director of globloan to Thailand since last May and al loan syndications at Barclays Capthe largest one in the country's and ital, said, "Once the ADB commits concerning the early part, extending the loan becomes very appealing. The money, available immediately, will be funneled through Thai-

Because export loans to manufacturers typically last six to eight weeks before repayment, the \$1 billion loan could be used to extend as much as \$7 billion annually toward exports. The development bank es-timated Thailand's total export funding requirements over the next two years at \$160 billion.

been available to the country's industries since its economic crisis Combining the new loan with the began last July.
When Thailand's currency col-\$1.2 billion in export loans and credits pledged by the United States and Japan should soon start to ease the lapsed and international investors pulled out of the slock market, forliquidity crisis for Thai exporters, eign banks limited their exposure by Pridayathom Devakula, president of only keeping open existing credit lines and extending no new loans. Despite a sharp devaluation of the the Export-Import Bank of Thailand,

"The lack of liquidity has delayed currency. Thailand's exports con-shipments, but starting now I think the

nightmare will be over, he said. But, although exporters will feel some relief, interest rates hovering 45 percent plunge in imports in dol- around 20 percent continue to hurt lar terms over the same period raised other parts of the economy.

### Indonesia to Draft Bankruptcy Law

tracted in dollar terms in January

compared with a year earlier, ac-cording to data released this week. A

"There's a negative image of how we uphold the law in In-JAKARTA — The government will unveil a bankruptcy law donesia," Mr. Muladi said. "This in May to replace regulations that have hindered Indonesia's ecohas to be improved, and the president is very determined that the nomic recovery, Justice Minister Muladi said Wednesday after meeting with President Suharto, The International Monetary law be upheld perfectly."

will virtually, go out of business only high, but unpayable, in terms of

He did not specify any changes contained in the law. The current bankruptcy laws date from before 1945, when Indonesia was still a Dutch colony.

Although dozens of Indonesian companies have defaulted on ruptcy code. Bankers have said debts since the country's financial the code is a major obstacle to crisis began last year, sone has resolving the problem of Indone- been successfully sued by credsian corporations' \$71 billion in iters to recover losses, and none

**EURO:** An Unstoppable Momentum? Continued from Page 11 European Union in the more than 40 courage economic activity, the cen- tablished the European Common tral banks of European countries Market. The price of failure is not

The euro, said Thierry de Montrial of the French Institute for Yrial of the French Institute for Y-

demned to succeed."

currency, Reuters reported from caught in a bind. curren
Still, the conventional wisdom Bonn.



office of the Financial Supervisory Commission, a new independent regulator overseeing South Korenn financial institutions. The commission had its first meeting Wednesday in Seoul.

# Seoul Posts Record Trade Surplus

As Economy Falters, Firms Rely on Exports as Engine of Growth

Conquist by the Soff From Degradus SEOUL - South Korea posted a record \$3.74 billion trade surplus in March, the government said Wednesday, as an economy lottering toward recession forced companies to focus on increasing exports.

It was the fifth straight monthly gain. South Korea's currency, the won, has plunged in value in the last year. A weak currency lifts exports making goods cheaper abroad

while making imports more costly. The March surplus was a sharp turnaround from a \$3.48 billion deficit a year ago. It increased the country's cumulative January-March trade surplus to \$8.58 billion, compared with a \$7.33 billion shortfall during the same period of 1997.

Exports rose 6.9 percent from February, to \$12.12 billion, as Korean-

on world markets. Imports fell almost 36 percent, to \$8.4 billion.

We cut imports of capital goods 70 percent this year," said Ki Ho Chul, planning and coordination manager at Hyundai Group, South Korea's biggest industrial group, or chaebol. "We couldn't curb raw material imports because we need these to make our exports."

Analysts said South Korea's trade surplus was bound to shrink had nearly exhausted inventories of raw materials and would soon have

to import huge amounts of goods. Companies are having difficulty financing imports because of South Korea's lowly credit rating and shaky banks. The government said it would use \$2 billion of credit recently made steel, petrochemicals and other provided by the World Bank to help

products became more competitive imponers obtain letters of credit. It will also use \$1 billion of loans supplied by the Asian Development Bank to guarantee trade financing.

'Optimism is shaky because there is little room for export growth," said Lee Hahn Koo, president of Daewoo Research Institute. "The country's industrial base shows signs of collapsing as the prolonged financial crisis forced companies to abandon investment plans.

In the first three months, imports through the year because exporters of raw materials tumbled 35.4 percent from a year earlier, to \$11,46 billion, almost balf of all imports, because of reduced demand. Lower prices played a part, led by a 53.8 percent drop in the cost of imported wood. Prices for pulp, glass products, steel and textile fibers also

(AP. Bloomberg, Reuters)

### DANONE: Franck Riboud Clears Way for Fresh Expansion

Continued from Page 11

Even after exchanging the wind-surfer for the office, Mr. Riboud stuck close to another outdoor passion — skiing — by signing on with the French ski maker Rossignol SA to work at a factory planned for Vermont. Several snowless winters later, wave of restructurings as European

jobs, helping, for instance, with the \$2.5 billion takeover in 1992 of RJR In 1996, Unilever announce Nabisco's European biscuit and international expansion strategy.

with its implicit right of succession. The cold-shoulder treatment coo-

Manfred Brunner, an opposent of manily owned less than 1 percent of family owned less than 1 percent of

Bonn.

The lawsuit comes a day before
Germany's Federal Constitutional

Danone in Wall Street, selling 3 that was not arrested until 1996.

To regain momentum, Franck Riboud raised \$850 million in 1997 by totaled about \$1 billion, compared A curo disaster, say those who believe in the single currency, would be a repudiation of everything that has been built by the

\$47.75, down 37.5 cents.

January on news that Danone's revenue in 1997 rose 5.4 percent, to 88.47 billion francs (\$14.31 billion), with profit rising 8.3 percent, to 3.66 billion francs. In part, Danone is simply riding a

Mr. Riboud in 1981 joined his fa- food manufacturers and distributors ther's company, then BSN Groupe.

Over the years he beld a variety of consumer stagnation and break out

snack activities and running Evian. \$50 billion of businesses in a major Canadian sprin In 1992, be took over the company's restructuring. In December, two of Dannon brand. France's biggest food distributors, Promodes SA and Casino SA, agreed to an informal alliance.

France by another giant food retailer, Auchan SA. It was in the early 1990s, when Danone was still BSN Groupe and Antoine Riboud was running it, that the company realized time ever; operating margins slipped that was not arrested until 1996.

sauces, pasta and ready-to-eat meals The stock got its latest lift in to a group of investors. At the same time, he concentrated on yogurt, beverages and other products in which Danone was a leader.

Part of the strategy has been to follow the broader trend to branded products by shaping the Danone name into a global trademark, including changing the company name from BSN Groupe in 1994. In Europe, Mr. Riboud added Danone to local brand names on products was shedding about 20 percent of its in North America, he introduced a Canadian spring water under the

For the future, Mr. Riboud is looking to expand outside Europe. Last year, a fourth of Danone's revenue That followed by about a year a was generated outside Europe, com-\$3.2 billion takeover of Docks de pared with 5 percent five years ago.

"I need people with increasing buying power — in Mexico, Brazii, Argentina, Asia," he said. The recent turmoil in the Far East does not upset him. While economies in Southeast its strategy needed tuning. When recession throttled Europe in 1993, hit roughly half of Danone's \$865 its revenue contracted for the first million of annual revenue in Asia and the Pacific region comes from China, Last October, Mr. Riboud took below 10 percent, beginning a slide and most of the rest comes from India

#### Tokyo Hong Kong Singapore Nikkei 225 Hang Seng Straits Times 18250 -- ... 15500 --- -2000 ----16750 Wednesday Prev: % Close Close Change Exchange 11,331.42 11.518.58 -1.63 Hong Kang Hang Seng 1,600.12 1,629.18 -1.78 Singapore Straits Times 2,752.90 2,744.20 +0.32 Sydney All Ordinaries 16,241.66 16,527.17 -1.73 Nikkei 225 Kuala Lumpur Composita 700.05 719.52 -2.71 Bangkok -0.55 456.57 459.11 Composite Index 468 22 481.04 -2.67 Taipei Stock Market Index 9,041.50 9,091.16 -0.55 Manila 2,209.37 2,238.42 -1.30 5,23,948 5,41,425 -3,23 Jakarta Composite Index Wellington NZSE-40 2,332.72 2,288.27 +1.94 Bombay Sensitiva Index 3,969.57 3,892.75 +1.97

#### Very briefly:

Investor's Asia

• HSI Services Ltd., the compiler of Hong Kong's 33company blue-chip Hang Seng Index, will launch a broader stock index — the Hang Seng 100 index — on April 20. The new index will include the 100 companies with the largest market capitalization on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange.

 Shimizu Corp., Japan's top contractor, said it would have a group net loss, its first in three years, of 46.5 billion yen (\$349.3 million) for the year that ended Tuesday because of write-offs and the country's economic slowdown.

· Yanzhou Coal Miniog Co., the first Chinese state enterprise to offer new shares in Hong Kong this year, made its trading debut Wednesday, closing at 2.475 Hong Kong dollars (31.95 U.S. cents), up from an offer price of 2.42 dollars. despite weak market conditions.

 China's machinery and electronics exports rose 33 percent from a year earlier, to \$8.8 billion, in the first two months of 998 amid rising demand for Chinese exports outside Asia, the official Xinhua news agency said. Exports to the United States jumped 24 percent and those to the European Union rose 35.9 percent in the two months, while exports to South Korea fell 20.5 percent.

• New Zealand's WestpacTrusi McDermott Miller Index of consumer sentiment in the latest quarter fell 4.8 percent to 102.9, its lowest level since the fourth quarter of 1991, amid worries about interest rates, employment, drought and the effects of the Asia crisis. Japan's domestic vehicle sales fell 20.7 percent in March

from a year earlier. It was the 12th consecutive month of decline as record unemployment and lower wages kept buyers • Coca-Cola Amatil Ltd., the largest soft-drink bottler in the

Asia/Pacific region, said it was confident despite the region's economic turmoil and cited sharp growth in the Philippines and steady Indonesian sales. · Air Lanka, Sri Lanka's newly privatized national carrier.

will buy six Airbus aircraft for \$550 million, the state privatization agency said.



1. Reports of the Board of Directors and of the

Independent Auditor. Approval of the Financial Statements made-up as of December 31, 1997.

**FL TRUST SWITZERLAND** 

26, ovenua Monterey L-2163 LUXEMBOURG

R.C. Luxembourg B 33.846

3. Discharge to the Directors and to the Independent Auditor. 4. Statutory appointments;

5. Miscellancous Resolutions on the agenda of the Statutory General Meeting will require no quorum and will be taken at the majority of the votes

expressed by the shareholders present or represented.

Shareholders who cannot attend the meeting are invited to send a proxy to the registered office to arrive not later than April 10, 1997. Proxy forms will be sent to registered shareholders. Proxy forms may also be obtained from the registered office.

The owners of bearer shares will have to deposit their shares five elear days before the meeting at either:

BANQUE FERRIER LULLIN (LUXEMBOURG) S.A., 26, avenue Monterey, L - 2163 Luxembourg FERRIER LUTTIN & CIE S.A., 15, rue Petitot.

CH - 1211 Genève 11 SWISS BANK CORPOBATION, One Exchange Square, 25th Floor, 8, Connaught Place, Hong Kong DEMACHY WORMS & CIE S.A., 55, rue La Boétie, F - 75008

CREEU'S GENERAL DE BANQUE S.A., Grand-Place, B - 1000

Sociáté d'Investissement à Copital Vorioble - SICAV | YES, I'd like to subscribe and pay for the following term:
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| (Saving off cover price: 36%)
| Special, 2-month trial subscription: £22
| (Saving off cover price: 53%)
| My check is enclosed (payable to the IHT)
| Charge my: | Access | Amex | Diners
| Eurocard | MasterCard | Visa
| Credit card charges will be made in French Francs at current exchange rates. Shareholders are hereby convened to attend the Statutory General Meeting of the Shareholders, which will take place at the company's registered office in Luxembourg on April 15, 1998 at 15:00 for the purpose of considering and voting upon the AGENDA OF THE STATUTORY GENERAL MEETING current exchange rates. Card No. Family Name:\_ lob Tide:\_ Mailing Address: Home Business Telephone:. E-Mail Address: Your VAT N° (Business orders only)

(Business orders only) I do not wish to receive information from other companies. This offer expires on December 31, 1998 and is AVAILABLE FOR NEW SUBSCRIBERS ONLY. Return your completed coupon to: Delphine Prinselaar, International Herald Tribune 63 Long Acre, London WC2E 9JH, Fax: (0171) 240 34 17 E-Mail: subs@iht.com READERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES CAN SUBSCRIBE BY CALLING: EUROPE, MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA

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REPUBLIC OF LEBANON MINISTRY OF MUNICIPAL AND RURAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL FOR DEVELOPMENT AND RECONSTRUCTION SOLID WASTE PENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROJECT INVITATION TO TENDER Cazas of Tripoli (Tripoli, El Mina, El Beddawi, El Bahsass and El Qalamnun Packages 1,2, and 3: Supply of Collection and Cleaning Equipment

The Republic of Lebanon has received funding from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) towards the cost of improvement of the solid waste management sector in Lebamin and it is intended that parts of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments for the Sopply of Collection and Cleaning Equipement project for the Caza of Tripoli.

The Republic of Lebanon, represented by the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Council for Development and Reconstruction (CDR), invites sealed bids from eligible contractors for the following: PACKAGE 1: Supply of 3 waste collection compactor trucks (capacity 5 m<sup>3</sup>) and 6 waste collection compactor

trucks(capacity 10 m3). PACKAGE 2: Supply of 350 waste galvanized containers (volume 500 L) and 700 waste galvanized containers (valume 1000 or 1100 L).

PACKAGE 3: Supply of street sweeping mobile equipment, namely 7 pick-up vehicles, 1 utility truck, 1 mechanical street washing / watering vehicle, 1 mechanical street sweeper, 1 wheel loader and 1

This project will be administrated by CDR based upon the World Bank's guidelines and the packages will be considered separately and distinctly. Contractors can acquire the bidding documents and hid for one or more of

Contractors who have already undertaken similar projects are invited to apply for one or more of the abovementioned packages and will be subject to post-qualification according to the criterin stated in the bidding documents. The bidding documents will be available for collection at CDR offices against the sum of USS 200 (two bundred) for each package in the form of a banker's certified check in the name of the Council for Development and Reconstruction as of Thursday 2d of April 1998 and are to be returned before twelve o'clock noon (Beirut local time) nn Thursday 14th of May 1998 at the following address:

The Council for Development and Reconstruction - Tallet el Serail - Beirut - Lebanon. The hid opening will take place at the CDR on Thursday 14th of May 1998 at twelve n'clock noon (Beirut incal

Further information may be obtained from: The Council for Development and Reconstruction - Tallet el Serail, -Beirut, Lehanon - Phone: 961-1-981 431/2 - Facsimile: 961-1-647 947

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ž Si	# UB7 Liquidity Fund DM DM 14.0418 # UB7 Liquidity Fund Equ Equ 14.0454 # UB2 Liquidity Fund SF SF 130.2194 # ALBATTOS PERFORMANCE FUND	G C Port II FE BE 1023 B 122	m F&C Rememen Invest \$ 10.25 200 PDREST INV MANAGEMENT (BDA) LTD	092 ITALFORTUNE MITL FUNDS  W Closs & Golger Growth had LP 159210.00  Closs & Golder Equity \$ 1830  Closs & Golder Bond \$ 1237  Closs C (Golder Bond \$ 1237  Closs D (ECU Bond) Ecu 17.66	a Coss B	HZ PRIMEO FUNOS  IN PRIMO GIORIFIC  IN PRIMO GIORIFIC  IN PRIMO GIORIFICO  I 13.36	## SEC Money Mile Ed. CHE   SF   177, 78   ## SEC Money Mile Ed. USD   1   \$76,50   ## SEC MONEY MILE ED. SEC MONEY MI	Miller South East Aug 5 12.21 Willer South East Aug 5 12.21 Willer Indexpm 5 18.39 S 18.39 Willerhand Capetal SU5 5 15 10 Willerhand Eur Currences Equ 18.39 Willerhand Eur Currences Equ 18.39 S 18.3
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# Herald Eribune PORTS

# World Roundur Play Ball! Familiar Faces, Teams in New Places

#### Floyd Patterson **Quits Post, Citing Loss of Memory**

**BOXING** The former world beavyweight champion Floyd Pat-terson resigned Wednesday as head of the New York State Athletic Commission, after the disclosure that he suffers from significant memory loss.

"After long and careful consideration, my family and I have decided that for personal reasons, I will resign," Patterson said in a letter to Governor George Pataki.

A source close to the athletic

commission confirmed a report in the New York Post that Patterson suffers from problems with shortand long-term memory. Many former boxers - including Sugar Ray Robinson and Muhammad Ali — have suffered from various forms of brain injuries or illnesses, or memory loss.

The Post said a 3½-hour video-tape of a March 20 deposition showed that Patterson, 63, was un-able to recall important events in his career and could not remember the names of bis closest aides.

Patterson was asked dozens of questions under oath for a suit filed by the promoters of so-called ultimate fighting, a sport combining martial arts, boxing and street brawling that is banned in New

Patterson could not recall that he beat Archie Moore to win the title in 1956, or that the fight was in Chicago. Patterson said he thought the bout was in New York. He also said he thought title fights were still 15 rounds instead of the current 12,

'It's hard for me to think when I'm tired," Patterson said, "Sometimes. I can't even remember my

#### Rypien Headed to Falcons

FOOTBALL The quarterhack Mark Rypien will be leaving the St. Louis Rams for Atlanta.

Rypien, an unrestricted free agent, has agreed in principle to a two-year, \$1.8 million contract offer from the Falcons. He is expected

to sign the deal early next week. Rypien. 35, played in five games last season for St. Louis, complet-ing 19 of 39 passes for 270 yards, no touchdowns and two interceptions. The Rams have already made a commitment to Will Furrer as the backup quarterback to Tony Banks, signing him to a two-year deal. The Rams also have another quarterback, Kurt Warner.

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### In 17th Opener, Ripken Is Blasé About a Defeat

It was his 17th successive Opening Day start for the Baltimore Orioles, his 2,479th consecutive game, his 347th straight since he eclipsed Lou Gehrig's consecutive-games streak on Sept. 6.

But the Baltimore Orioles' opener Tuesday at Camden Yards turned out to be just another game for Cal Ripken and

#### AL ROUNDUP

the team he would like to see back in the World Series for the first time since 1983. As Ripken viewed it, it's always fun to win, and a little more fun than

usual to win the first game.
"Opening Day is different," Ripken,
37, said after the Kansas City Royals beat the Orioles, 4-1, behind a strong pitching effort by Tim Belcher and despite an equally impressive game by Mike Mussina. "It's the closest thing you have to an 'event' during the regular

Belcher, starting in place of the injured Kevin Appier, allowed three hits in seven scoreless innings to beat Mussina, who struck out 11 in eight innings. Larry Sutton, a rookie, drove in three runs for the Royals, and Jeff King went 2-for-2, scoring twice before leaving in

the fourth because of a sore back. It was the fifth straight time the Royals had opened the season against Baltimore - and only the second time they won. It was also losing debut for Ray Miller, the Baltimore manager who replaced Davey Johnson — last season's manager of the year — after Baltimore was eliminated by Cleveland in the first round of the playoffs.

Ripken has often contributed to an Opening Day victory. In 1989, he hit a three-run honier off Boston's Roger Clemens to help the Orioles to a 5-4 victory in a tense, extra-inning contest at Memorial Stadium, In bis first Orioles' opener, in 1982, Ripken went 3 for 5 with a home run and a double,

And he also hit home runs to open the 1983, 1984, 1989 and 1997 seasons.

Counting his seasons in the minor leagues, Tuesday was Ripken's 21st Opening Day, but it was as uneventful as any he's had. He went 0 for 3; he struck out, fouled out and flied out. In the field, however, be made one stirring play, diving to his left to spear a ground ball and throw to second for a force-out. It was reminiscent of plays by Brooks Robinson, who enjoyed 20 Opening Days, the only Oriole in history with more than Ripken.

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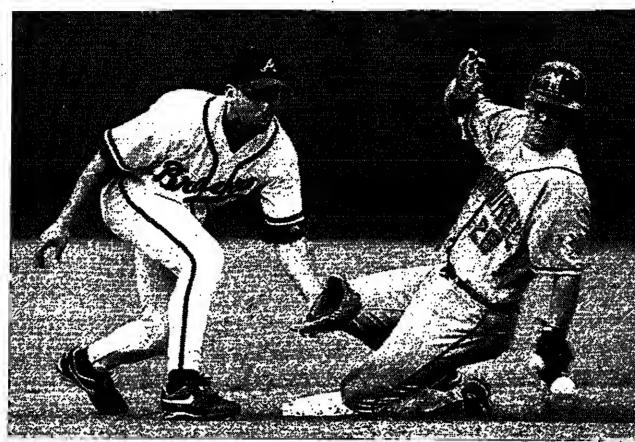
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Jeff Cirillo of the Brewers stealing second base as Walt Weiss of the Braves tries to come up with the low throw,

Oriole partisans were left to shrug and remember that it's a long season. "When you're on the losing side, you do that," Ripken said. "When you're on the winning side, you get to celebrate the Opening Day victory. But if you look at it in the hig picture, it's one of 162 ball garnes. If you bave a great season, you're going to lose 60 times. You bope it's one of just 60 times."

White Sox 9, Rangers 2 Frank Thomas, Albert Belle and Robin Ventura drove in two runs each for visiting Cbicago in Jerry Manuel's first game as manager of the White Sox.

Winner Jaime Navarro allowed just five hits in six sbutout innings and Mike Cameron saved a borne run when he leaped in left-center to snare a ninthinning drive by Fernando Tatis that was headed over the wall.

Loser John Burkett was tagged for seven runs and six hits, all in the fifth

Detroit 11, Tampa Bay 6 Tampa Bay's performance on opening day wasn't a surprise. The Devil Rays, the American League's expansion team, gave up the game's first 11 runs in their franchise

At Tropicana Field, which features baseball's first cigar bar, Wade Boggs's two-run homer off winner Justin Thompson in the sixth inning was about all Devil Rays' fans bad to cheer following an hourlong pregame celehra-

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tion of baseball's arrival on Florida's

was pounded for six runs and nine hits in 21/3 innings. Alvarez seemed the perfect choice to start the Rays' first game, and not just because the \$35 million free agent was

The losing pitcher, Wilson Alvarez,

their first big-bucks acquisition. He was 7-0 against the Tigers since June 1993, mainly with the White Sox. But be couldn't make it out of the third, surrendering hits to the first five

batters in a four-run second highlighted by Joe Randa's two-run double and Joe Oliver's two-run single, Randa's RB1 single in the third chased him.

Cleveland 10, Seattle 9 At the Kingdome, Seattle, still looking like an ex-pansion team as far as the bullpen is concerned, wasted a six-run lead and allowed Cleveland to rally for a victory. Ken Griffey Jr., Jay Bnhner, Edgar.

Martinez and Russ Davis each homered a reminder that the Mariners hit a record 264 bome runs last year. But then came, the bullpen, which blew 27 save chances last season. Bobby Ayala, loser Tony Fossas and Mike Timlin combined to allow two hits and five walks in the

Randy Johnson, starting perhaps his final season with the Mariners, bad a 9-3 lead, but wound up allowing six runs, 11 hits and two walks in 5½ innings.

"It's only one game," said the Mar-iners' manager, Lou Piniella. "I still iners' manager, Lou rimena.

contend we're going to have good pitching. I'm a little disappointed, but it will

(WP, AP)

# **Meet the Rookie Marlins**

### Low-Budget Team Lacks Championship Luster

By Murray Chass
New York Times Service

MIAMI - The Florida Marlins returned to the scene of the crime. The crime, as their fans see it, wasn't winwas the demolition of the team after the Marlins won the World Series.

In a hittersweet beginning to the season after, the Marlins' fans booed H. Wayne Huizenga, the team's owner, when he was introduced during pregame ceremonies. But they cheered videoboard scenes of the team's 1997 success, and they cheered the players, the ones who remained from Huizenga's payroll purge that lopped \$20 million off the team's season-ending \$53.5 million payroll.

Jim Leyland, the manager, who was cheered, said he did not take it personally when he is booed. Asked whether he thought the Huizenga booing was personal, he said no, "They were booing that we don't have our players back."

· It was Huizenga's decision, course, not to have the players back, 12 of the 25 from last year's team. The Marlins, who won the seventh game of the World Series at Pro Player Stadinm on Oct. 26, could not tell from their 11-6 opening-day victory over the Chicago Cubs on Tuesday what to expect from this year's version.

Gary Sbeffield and Charles Johnson each slugged a three-run home run against Kevin Tapani, but Johnson, the National League's best defensive catcher, committed his first error since June 1996, and Livan Hernandez, who was to put with their young players.

the World Series most valuable player, had a shaky start, allowing five runs in the first three innings, three on a first-

inning home run hy Henry Rodriguez. Sheffield, Johnson and Hernandez are 3 of the 13 players who remain from ning the World Series last October: it the 25 World Series participants. Only 11 of those 13 were in uniform Tuesday because Bobby Bonilla was on the disabled list and Jim Eisenreich was at a family funeral.

The most prominent feature of the season-after roster is the contingent of 14 rookies, including 9 on the 12-man pitching staff, a remarkable number for any team, let alone a defending World

Series champion. The fans, who did not fill all of the seats Tuesday, did not let Huizenga's wholesale cost-cutting undermine their fun. They applauded the videoboard images, saving their loudest appreciation for the final World Series scene.

They cheered, too, when a sign was unveiled above the left-field fence proclaiming the Marlins as "1997 World Champions." But then Joe Angel, a Marlins' radio and television announcer and the master of ceremonies, began introducing the people who would ride to the center-field fence and raise the World Series championship flag.

Don Smiley, the club president, was the first person introduced and Huizenga the second. The fans booed Huiz-

These Marlins do not have the look of a champion. They more closely resemble an expansion team that went out and signed some expensive free agents

### A Flying Start For McGwire And Cardinals

Mark McGwire hit a grand slam in the fifth inning to lead the St. Lonis Cardinals past the Los Angeles Dodgers, 6-0, on Opening Day.

A sellout crowd of 47,972 in St. Louis

screamed in anticipation oo Tuesdaywhen Delino DeShields walked on a full count to load the bases with McGwire on deck. McGwire didn't disappoint them, hitting a towering drive that

#### NL ROUNDUP

cleared the left-field wall and broke

open a scoreless game.

McGwire, who also doubled, oversbadowed a strong performance from the winning pitcher. Todd Stottlemyre. The St. Louis starter gave up three hits in seven-plus innings and did not allow a runner past second base. McGwire's blast came off the loser,

Ramon Martinez, to spoil Rupert Mur-doch's first game as owner of the. Dodgers.

Brewers lost in their NL debut when Gerald Williams trotted home from third after an attempted pickoff throw, by the Brewers' catcher, Mike Matheny,

kipped into left field in the ninth.
The Brewers became the first major. league baseball team to switch leagnes since the 1892 season, and played their, first NL game against the team that left.
Milwaukee for Atlanta after the 1965.

williams, a former Brewer, walked with one ont in the ninth and took thirdwhen another pincb-bitter, Keith Lockhart, singled. The losing pitcher, Bob Wickman, struck out Andruw Jones, but Matheny went to third when Lockhart broke for second on the pitch. Mathe broke for second on the pitch. Matheny's throw bounced past Jeff Cirillo-into left, and Williams came home with the deciding run.

Mets 1, Phillies 0 In New York, pinch-hitter Alberto Castillo singled with two outs and the bases loaded in the 14th

Matt Franco opened the 14th with a Biolog Bortalico. single off the loser, Ricky Bottalico. took second when Brian McRae walked and lost his footing rounding third on Bernard Gilkey's single. One out later. Castillo singled on a 3-2 pitch.

Turk Wendell, the Mets' sixth pitcher, picked up the victory with two innings of hitless relief.

Padres 10, Reds 2 In Cincinnati, . Pokey Reese tied an opening-day record . for shortstops with four errors. The Padres' starter Kevin Brown, one

of a dozen players discarded by Florida after its World Series title, gave up one run and five hits in 614 innings and hit a three-run double in the seventh.

Mike Remlinger, who got the opening-day start after Dave Burba was traded . to Cleveland on Monday, gave up three runs in five innings and was the loser.

Giants 9, Astros 4 In Houston, Jeff -Kent had a career-high five hits, in-" cluding a three-run homer, as San Fran-, cisco won its first opener since 1994. ...

With the score tied, 4-4, C.J. Nitkowski walked Charlie Hayes lead-ing off the 13th, and Hayes took third on. Rey Sanchez's single. Darryl Hamilton grounded to Tim Bogar at sbortstop. who threw out Hayes at the plate as Sanchez took third. A pinch-hitter, Alex Diaz, then singled off Bogar's glove to score the go-ahead run.

Rockies 9, Diamondbacks 2 In Phoenix, Vinny Castilla homered twice and drove in five runs and Darryl Kile pitched like the ace the Rockies expectedas Colorado spoiled the Diamondbacks' debut.

Kile, who signed a \$24 million, threeyear contract with Colorado during the off-season, limited the Diamondbacks; to four hits and one run in seven innings for the win. Andy Benes, the loser, gave. up five runs and nine hits in 6 13 in-

# LeClair Nets 2 as Flyers Down Blackhawks

The Associated Press

John LeClair scored his 45th and 46th goals to become the NHL's second-leading goal scorer for the season as the Philadelphia Flyers beat the Chicago Blackhawks, 3-2

AMSTERDAM \* DREAMS \* ESCORTS and Dinner Date Service for Him or Her. Tel: +31 (0) 20-64 02 666 / 64 02 111 The Flyers' left wing, bearing down on his third consecutive 50-goal season, "SANDY" - WARM & FRIENDLY Private Escort Service. London W1. Tet: 0171-835 2525 trails Anaheim's Teemu Selanne by four

Philadelphia, which found out before

won its second game after a three-game

Mike Sillinger also scored for Philadelphia, and Alexei Zhamnov scored

NHL ROUNDUP

both goals for visiting Chicago. Sean Burke stopped 25 shots for the Flyers. Capitals 5, letanders 2 In Washington, Eric Lindros, would not return for five and an assist as the Capitals beat New the Eastern Conference,

more games because of a concussion. York to move into a tie for fourth place in ? the Eastern Conference.

Esa Tikkanen, Brian Bellows and Steve Konowalchuk added goals for the Capitals. Mariusz Czerkawski scored both goals for the Islanders.

Canadiens 3, Hurricanes 3 Mark Recchi had a goal and an assist and Vincent Damphousse added two assists as Montreal and Carolina played to a draw in overtime. Host Carolina moved withthe game Tuesday night that its captain. Peter Bondra had two first-period goals in three points of eighth-place Ottawa in

LIVE - Figure Skating - World Championships

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**SPORTS** 

# ميكذا من الاعل

# Rains zilian orest

Staff From Dispensions The first heavy rains fuesday on the oorth-state of Roraima ied rain forests and eod to the wildfires of control in the area

press spokesman for Bureau in Boa Vista 1,550 miles) northie capital, estimated atinguished 80 perof the fires.

curate assessment ssible Wednesday. w in charge of the on, had flowo over

satellite photos in-4.200 square kiloare miles), or about tate, has been devpread into the Yan-

and into the reserther tribes, Indian bout 55 percent of

onteiro, head of a un of firefighting ed Monday called onmeotal disaster this planet."

n from Brazil entina have been office of the Ro-

the rain has been reduced the numlone! Jorge Fraxe , a spokesman for rt. But all the dea and they will AP. Keulers)

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# Pacers Find the Basket

# Club Shooting Record Is Set Against Clippers

The Associated Press

Two days after setting an NBA record or futility, the Indiana Pacers set a club scord with 14 3-pointers - six by hris Mullin—as they defeated the Los ingeles Clippers, 128-106.

In beating the visiting Clippers for the 1th consecutive time on Tuesday ight, the Pacers hit 11 of their first 14

#### NBA ROUNDUP

hors, including 3-of-3 on 3-pointers, to ike command from the start.

Mollin led Indiana with 24 points, and ras 6-of-6 from 3-point range. Reggie filler, who returned after a ooe-game uspension, and Antonio Davis, playing or the injured Rick Smits, added 19 oints apiece. Mark Jackson had 11 oints and 15 assists in 26 minutes as eserves played the fourth quarter.
On Sunday, in a 74-55 loss to San

Intonio, the Pacers set a league record or fewest points io a game since the VBA began using a shot clock in 1954. Lakers 114, Raptors 105 Rick Fox had

Il points and 10 rebounds as the Lakers won por the 13th time in their last 15 rames. Shaquille O'Neal added 20 points and 13 rebounds for the Lakers, while Chauncey Billups had 21 for the iost Raptors, who lost their sixth traight game.

Spurs 95, Knicks 78 in New York, im Duncan scored 25 points and David tobinson had 24 as San Antonio oversowered the Knicks.

The Spurs, starting three 7-footers, and a height advantage of more than our inches per man. New York's two 7ooters, Patrick Ewiog and Chris Dudey are out with injuries. Allan Houston led the Knicks with 31

Nets 05, Hawks 90 Keith Van Horn cored 19 of his 22 points in the first marter, and Kerry Kittles kept host New

Jersey in from after Atlanta made a fourth-quarter run.

Kittles scored 9 of his 18 points in a 16-2 spurt that gave the Nels a 91-75 lead. The Neis moved a half game ahead of Orlando in the fight for the eighth playoff berth in the East.

Cavaliers 93, Magic 86 Bob Sura had 21 points as Cleveland beat Orlando. Shawn Kemp had 13 points and 16 rebounds, and Wesley Person scored 16. Sura, a 53-percent foul shooter, was 9-

for-9 from the line. Heat 121, Coltica 95 In Miami, the Heat won the game, but lost Alonzo Mourning with a broken left cheekbone, The 6-foot 10-inch center was facing surgery and his slatus was uncertain, the team said.

Mourning, who averages 19.2 points and 9.7 rebounds, was injured during a scrap for a loose ball in the third quarter when he collided with Boston's Andrew DeClercq.

Hornots 101, 76ers 93 Glcn Rice scored 26 points, and David Wesley's 15-foot jumper broke a tie late in the fourth quarter for host Charlotte.

The Homeis blew a 20-point first quarter lead and trailed, 81-76, with 9:24 left before regrouping to hold off the 76ers and end a two-game losing streak. Bulls 106, Pistons 101 (07) In Chicago, Michael Jordan's defense prevented Grant Hill from scoring at the end of regulation, and Chicago extended its season-high winning streak to 10 games

vith a victory in overtime. Scottie Pippen returned from a twogame absence (tonsillitis) and had 27 points, 7 rebounds and 7 assists, Jordan

had 26 points and 8 assists. Dennis Rodman grabbed 18 rebounds for Chicago. Sums 97, Rockets 86 In Houston, Jason Kidd had 21 points and sparked

Phoenix with four 3-pointers in the second half, A 3-pointer by Kidd midway through



Bulls' Scottie Pippen, back from a two-game absence, shooting over the Pistons' Jerry Stackhouse.

a 10-0 Phoenix run in the third period put the Suns ahead to stay at 60-58. When Houston moved within 70-67 at the start of the fourth quarter, Kidd's 3-pointer capped a 7-2 Phoenix run to give the Suns a 77-69 lead and send them to their third straight victory.

SuperSonics 88, Jazz 86 Detlef Schrempf scored 17 points and hit the goahearl basket as Seattle railied to bear visiting Utah. The victory put Seattle (54-18) a half-game ahead of Utah (53-18) in the race for best record to the Western Conference

Mavericks 104, Grizzlies 101 A.C. Green and Michael Finley scored 22 points apiece and Erick Strickland made a key steal in the final seconds for visiting Dallas.

Bucks 94, Warriors 89 (OT) Armon Gilliam scored 29 points, including eight in overtime, and Milwaukee ended its nine-game road losing streak, Ray Allen added 24 points and Ervin Johnson had 17 for Milwaukee,

# At Crunch Time, Atletico Wilts

By Peter Berlin International Heruld Technic

MADRID - For one of the biggest European matches in its history, Atletico Madrid found itself first reduced to the status of a warm-up act in its own city, and then upstaged by its guests and its own club president.

Atletico lost the first leg of its UEFA Cup semifinal, 1-0, to Lazio of Rome on Tuesday night, just 24 hours before Real Madrid, its more famous and successful neighbor, entertained Borussia

Dortmund in the Champions Cup. Lazio, too, is used to being part of the cborus, overshadowed in Italy by Juventus and the two Milan teams. But its victory Tuesday stretched its unbeaten streak to 24 matches. That run has also carried it to third place in Italy's Serie A, one point behind Inter and two behind

After the match, Sven Goran Eriksson, the Lazio coach, said his team was 'Fifty-one perceot of the way to the final." Now, it moves on to the important matter of the Italian League match in Rome on April 5 between Lazio and Juventus.

Radomir Antic, the Atletico coach, said nothing at all. Jesus Gil, the club president, has banned Antic and his players from speaking to the media, who, he says, are stirring up trouble at

the club. That, of course, is Gil's job. The one exception to the ban is Gil himself. He launched an obscenitylaced attack against Spanish television for reporting on Wednesday that he had lined up an Italian coach to replace

Antic. Gil, an accomplished scene stealer, drew attention oot only with his words but with his movements Tuesday, Following a tirade last year, he was banned for five months by the Spanish league. He has simply ignored the ban and kept turning up for matches, including three UEFA Cup games.

For that, UEFA, the governing body of European soccer, last week fined Gil 15,000 Swiss Francs (\$9,700). Undaunted, and still banned, Gil appeared in his presidential seat Tuesday to watch his club. He may have wished he had not

bothered. There is something eodearing and reassuring about a team that defends as poorly as Atletico did. A certain disregard for the modern obsession with defense has become a trademark of the big Spanish clubs. Barcelooa reached

#### THE UEFA CUP

two Champions Cup finals with a distinctly shaky back line. Rea Madrid happily fields two full backs, Roberto Carlos and Christian Panucci, who often prefer to attack than to defend.

On Tuesday, Atletico was incapable of marking. Diego Fuser, the Lazio captain, shot wide when in the clear on a counter attack. Pavel Nedved, another Lazio midfielder, perhaps surprised 10 find himself unmarked 12 yards from goals, sliced his shot wide. Then in the 34th minute, Vladimir Jugovic collected the ball in midfield. As he advanced, the defense fled, and be ripped a low sbot into the corner of the Atletico

Yet, the cavalier defensive play of Spanish clubs does not offer a porteor for the World Cup finals. Two of the Atletico defenders, Carlos Aguillera and Santi Denia, will probably start for the Spanish national team in France. Over the last six years, Javier Clemente, the Spanish coach, has made unyielding defense the bedrock of his strategy.

Tuesday's match may also have provided some World Cup clues in another area: the long-running soap opera involving the goal-scoring positions in the Italian national team, Many have auditioned, but none has made the role his own. Three of the candidates played on Tuesday.

Roberto Mancini, the languid veteran, was particularly so for Lazio. Pierluigi Casiraghi, a muscular center-forward, made a late appearance as a substitute - clearly desperate to exploit the Atletico defense. He managed one tame shot and one disoriented header.

By far the most conspicuous of the three was Christian Vieri, the bustling Atletico striker. Without the support of his usual strike partner, Kiko, who was suspended, and Atletico's most creative midfield player, Juninho, who is injured, he hewed out seven scoring chances. He flicked a beader from one of Milinko Pantic's viciously swerving corners wide of the goal. The other six . strikes were all with his foot and all on target, yet he fired five of them straight at Luca Marchegiani, the Lazio goalkeeper. That is not babit that will win

him a World Cup place.
One man who has a World Cup place is Paul Durkin, the English referee. He who came to Madrid fresh from a briefing in Paris last week. There, referees, were sold that Sepp Blatter, the general secretary of FIFA, world soccer's governing body, wants players who commit illegal tackles from behind seot off. On Tuesday, Aleo Boksic, the Lazio striker who will play for Croatia in the summer, was "blattered" in the first 10 minutes. Durkin did nothing. In the second half Jose Antonio Chamor, a Lazio defeoder who plays for Argentina, "blattered" Jose Luis Caminero. Again Durkin awarded ooly a free kick.

The Englishman should watch out that he does out himself receive a red

Inter Milan 2. Spartak Moscow 1 In Milan, Ze Elias lashed home a loose ball in the last minute to give Inter victory in the first leg of its UEFA Cup semifinal. Ivan Zamorano, making a rare start, had put Inter ahead with a ferocious header iust before halftime. Dmitry Alenichev leveled for the Russians with a clever dribble and sbot in the 48th minute.



Boggs (11.
Clavalant 662 103 840—10 14 0 Seathle 200 160 680—9 12 2
Nogy, Shuey (5), Mesa (7), Assenmacher (9), M. Jackson (9) and S.Alamer, Johnson, Ayalo (6), Foscas (8), Timila (8), Spoffaric (9) and O. Wilson, W—Mesa I-0, I.—Fosca 9-1.
Sv—M. Jackson (11. HRs—Claveland, S. Alomar (1), Seathle Griffey Jr (1), E. Martinez (1), Buhner (1), R. Davis (1). NATIONAL LEAGUE 002 001 608-10 10 1 000 000 119-2 6 4 Schäling, Sprudlin (9), Brewer (10), M.
Letter (10), Britalico (12) and Lleberflot
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W—Wendell 1-0, L.—Bottolico 0-1.
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Sanchez (6), Alfonseca (7), J. Poweh (9) and C. Johnson. W—L. Hermandez 1-0. L.—Tapani 0-1. HRS—Chlcogo, H. Rodriguez 11), Florida, Shetfield (1), C.Johnson 111. Glants 062 010 000 000 5—9 16 1 Astros 101 200 000 000 6—9 16 1 Astros 101 200 000 000 6—9 2 13 Innings
Esies, S. Reed (4), Tovarez (7), Nen (9), Johnstone (11), Poole (13) and Johnson Reynolds, Magnante (7), B. Wogner (9), O. Henry (10), Nithowski (12), J. Cobrere (13) and Ausmus, W—Johnstone 1-0. L—Nithowski 0-1. HRS—Son Francisco, Kent Henry (10), Nitkowski (12), J. Cobrero (13) and Ausmus. W—Johnstone 1-0, L—Nitkowski 0-1, HR3—Son Francisco, Kenf (11, Hauston, Berry (11, Colorado 010 002 510—9 13 0 Arizana 000 001 001—2 6 0 Kile, Leskonic (8), Dipoto (9) and Manwaring: AnBenes, Sodowsky (7), Brow (8), R. Springer (9) and Fabregos, W—Kile 1, 0, L—An Benes 0-1, HR3—Colorado, Costilla 2 (2), Arizana, T. Lee (1), k. Garcia (11.

Exhibition Baseball mesota 9, Marricel 8

54 18 .750 — 52 20 .722 2 48 25 .658 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 40 31 .53 13;-26 47 .256 28<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> 16 56 .222 38 15 58 .205 39<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

x-clinched playoff berth,

TUESSAY RESULTS

LA, Lohers 25 24 31 24—114

Teronfo 24 28 30 25—105

Lokers: Fox 10-21 10-11 31, O'Neal 6-10 8-15 20: T: Billups 7-11 3-3 21, Christie 5-16 10
14 20, Rebetinds—Lakers 55 (O'Neal 13), Toronfo 56 (Camby, Trent 7), Assists—Lokers 27 (Fisher 7), Toronfo 26 (Miller Rillups 61, LA, Clippers 26 24 25 31—106

Indiana 26 35 33 24—128

Clippers: Murray 9-17 2-2 21, Toylor 7-14 6-6 20; I: Mu'lla 8-9 2-2 24, ADavis 6-13 3-4 19, Miller 7-11 0-0 19, Rebeurads—Clippers 44 (Austin, Wright, Taylor 6), Indiana 43 (A.Davis 13), Assists—Clippers 19 (Richardson 6), Indiana 32 Layckson 15).

Sont Antonios 7 24 21: 17 21—95: New York 2 15 16 23—78

S.A.: Duncan 10-16 5-5 25, Robleson 8-16 8-11 24 N.Y.: Houston 15-19 0-2 31, Oakby 7-10

2-2-16, Rebounds—6, Antonio 57 (Duncan 10), New York 28 (Ookley 7), Assists—S, Antonio 20 (Del Negm 11), New York 26 (Ward 10), Attanta 25 22 22 20—98

New Jersey 32 29 19, Bisplock 8-15 2-3

Attonta 25 22 22 29—99
New Jersey 34 23 15 33—105
A: Reconser 7-13 2-2 19, Blaytock 8-15 2-3
18: N.J.: Van Hom 8-14 3-4 22, Kifftes 7-17 22 18. Rebounds—Allanto 36 (Mutombo 9),
New Jersey 52 (Gotiling 14). Assists—Atlanto
18 (Blaytock 7), New Jersey 23 (Cassell 7).
Boston 38 31 33 19—121
B: Worker 7-14 4-5 19, Mercer 7-13 2-2 16:
Mt. Lenord 10-18 2-2 26. Majerés 5-8 3-3 16.
Rebounds—Boston 36 (DeClercy, Tabok 7),
Nicard 49 (Mourning 8). Assists—Boston 19
(Maior 5). Miord 25 (Mourdack 8). [Mintor St. Miomi 25 [Murdock 81. Phillodelphia 22 27 28 16—93 Charlotte 38 16 19 28—197 Phi Iverson 12-242-528, Thornos 8-14 0-0 19; C. Rice 10-18 3-6 26, Westey 8-14 2-2 18. Rebounds—Phillodelphia 39 (Coleman 13), Charlotte 52 [Masson 15], Assists—Phillodelphia 20 (Show 7), Charlotte 28 [Westey 10], Orlands 18 22 18 28—86 Caevelond 19 34 17 23—93 C: Strong 6-10 5-5 17, Grant 6-12 2-2 14; C:

Sura 5-7 9-9 21, Person 5-12 4-5 16, Rebounds—Oriondo 50 (Ourlow, Strang 7), Cleveland 52 (Kemph 16), Assists—Oriondo 24 (Ourlow, Harper 41, Cleveland 29 (Kengh 10), Detroll 20 21 23 21 4-161 Chicaga 26 38 26 13 11-106 D: Hill 13-24 11-13 37, B. Writtoms 12-17 3-4 27; C. Pippen B-15 10-10 27, Jordan 81, 24-4 26. Rebounds—Detroll 41 (B. Writtoms 11, 26 4-4 26. Rebounds—Detroll 41 (B. Writtoms 13), Chicago 47 (Rodinan 16), Assists—Detroll 21 (Slockhouse 7), Chicago 31 (Lordan 8), Phoenix 19 26 25 27-97 (McDyess 10-14 2-22), Kidd B-17 1-1 21; H: E. Johnson 6-12 3-3 17, Bullard 5-5 1-2 15, Olojuwan 6-16 3-4 15, Rebounds—Phoenix 50 (McChyess 12), Houston 46 (Olojuwan 12), Assists—Phoenix 6, Umanning, Kidd 6), Houston 20 (Bultord, Maloney 41, Utch 20 19 24 23-86 Seattle 26 15 26 21-88 U: Molone 7-14 6-7 20, Keefe 5-6 2-2 12, Anderson 5-9 2-4 12; 5; Baker B-11 2-4 18, Schrempf 5-11 6-8 17, Rebounds—Utch 44

Schrempf 5-11 6-8 17, Rebound

Assists—Urbh 24 (Hornocek 7), Segitle 23 (Pryton 9),
Dolles 29 29 26 28—104 Vancotiver 21 24 26 38—161 O: Green 9-17 4-4 22 Finley 8-18 6-6 22 V: Abdur-Rohlen 8-15 7-7 23, B. Receys 7-15 3-5 17. Reboonds—Dollos 47 (Riley 12), Voncover S2 (Smith, Lynch 13), Assists—Dollos 28 (Finley 7), Vancover 27 (Harley 9),
Millerovice 26 16 22 16 14—94 | Telephone | Tele

ICEHOCKEY NHL STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE Florida Tampa Bay

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Washington 2 2 1—5 1st Period: NY: Czerkowski 8 (Linden. 197 Period: NY Czerkowski 8 (Linder), Polifiy) 2. W-Bondra 44 (Konowalchuk, Junacu) 3. NY: Czerkowski 9 (Jonsson, Polifiy) 4. W-Bondra 45 (Nikolishin) 2d Period: W-Tiktonen 2 (Brown) (ppl. 6, W-Bellows 3 (Gonchu, Housley) (pp.), 2d Period: W-Konowalchuk, 8 (Nikolishin,

Bondra) Shots en godt: NY- B-13-12—33. W-11-52—25. Goalles: NY- Salo. W-Kotzig.

Montreal

1 1 1 9—3
Carolline 1 1 1 0—3
Carolline 1 1 1 0—3
1st Period: C Gellinas 14 (Chilasson, Emerson) (ppl. 2 M-Recchi 21 (Damphausse, Corson) 2d Period: M-Brisebots & (Manson, Damphausse) (ppl. 4. C- Primeau 25 (Chilasson) 3d Period: M-Molathov 12 (Recchi Hogbund) (ppl. 6. C- Kron 16 (Leschyshyr, Primeau) Overtimes None, Shots on goot: M- 12-11-7-1—31. C-9-5-5-2—21. Godlies: M-Thibuuti. C- Kidd. Chicage

S-5-2-21, Goddes: M-1 hitoroff, C. Krod.
Chicogo
PhBudelphia 1 1 1-3
1st Perfect C-Zhomnov 10 (Dublasky,
VandenBusscherl 2, P-LeClair 45 (McGlitis,
Brind'Amourt 2d Perfect C-Zhomnov 19
(Loffamme, Amorde) (St). 4, P-Sillinger 18,
3d Periedt P-LeClair 46 (Kloff) Shots on goods
C-11-6-10-27. P. 6-8-9-23. Godfies: CHockett, P-Burke.

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DANCE COMPULSORIES DANCE COMPULSF-REED

1. Anjelika Knjeve/Oleg Chesyanelkov, Rus.,
0.4 factored pt/ 2. Shaes-Lynn Bourne/Victor
Kroutz, Canada, 1.0, lie Manina Anles-land Canada, 1.0, lie Manina Anles-land Canada Peterary, France, 1.0; 4. Irina
Lobacheva/liva Avestouts, Rus., 1.4; 5. Elzo-Longcrevarius Avetoulus, Russ. Las S. Euto-beth Punsalan/Jerod Swallow, U.S. 20; 6. Barbara Fusar-Poll/Mourtzlo Marpopila, Italy, 2.4; 7. Margarita Drobiazko/Povilas Vonogos, Librumiu, 2.8; 8. Kall Whitels:/Ports Loitss, Germany, 3.4; 86 Irlan Romonovalgar Yamshenka, Ukraine, 3.4; 10, Sylvia Nowak/Sebastian Kolasinsky, Poland, 4.0.

SOCCER

**UEFA CUP** SEMIFINALS, FIRST LEG

Bellon & Arsenal 1

RRGIGH

IT'S SOME IMPROVEMENT.

points: Arsendi 60: Liverpool 54: Blockburn 51; Cheised. Leeds 48: West Hom 47: Derby 45: Coventry, Southampton 43: Aston Villa 42: Leicester 40: Streffield Wednesday 37: Wimbledon. Newcastle 36: Tothenham 34: Everton 33: Barnsley 31: Bolton 30; Crystal

DUTCH CUP FRIENDLY INTERMATIONAL South Korea 2. Japan I

### TRANSITIONS

BASHBALL AMERICAN LEACUE MINNESOTA—Bought the contracts of OF Driando Merced and INF Brent Gries from Orlando Merced and INF Brent Gates from Solf Lake, PCL.

ALW YORK—Optioned RHP Mike Buddle and RHP Todd Erdos to Colombus, IL. Put INF Leis Solo on 15-day disabled list, TORONTO—Optioned 2B Tom Evans to Syracuse, IL. Bought contracts of INF Craig Grebeck and INF Juan Samuel from Syracuse.

MATIONAL LEAST.

NATIONAL LEAGUE
HOUSTON—Put RHP Romon Gorcle, RHP
Chris Holt and OF Ray Montgomery on the
15-day disabled list, 15-day disabled list.

5-AM FRANCISCO—Put RHP Osyakla.

5-AM FRANCISCO—Put RHP Osyakla.

USA BASKETBALL

itsa-Named Eastern Michigan coach Milton Barries and St. Josephs, Pa. coach Phil Mortelli assistant coaches of 1998 mems

with S Charles Mincy on 2-year contract.

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE
NHL—Fined Detroit C Sergel Fedorov
\$1,000 and suspended rism for 2 games for
checking Anaheim O Jason Marshall from
behind in March76 game. Fined San Jose RW
Joe Murphy \$1,000 and suspended thin
games for match penalty from sisching Dallas
O Richard Matvichuk in March 28 game.

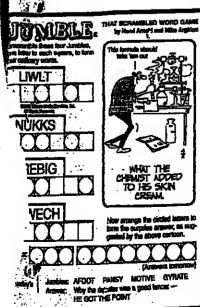
PANACHE. THAT'S IT.

WAIT, I'VE GOT SOME PLASTIC VAMPIRE FINGS

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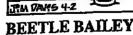






















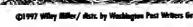
















#### **DOONESBURY**





#### ART BUCHWALD

### **Burn Those Books**

WASHINGTON — The agent, "Do you have 'Rebecca thing that makes Ken of Sunnybrook Farm'?" Starr a great prosecutor is that he will suhpoena anybody, me a copy. When I handed it anywhere to track down one back to him he started to dust of his usual suspects. Even if it for fingerprints.

it's a manhole cover, he'll demand it be produced for the grand jury.

The latest to be subpoensed Kramerbooks. Starr de-

manded that it Buchwaid turn over a list of books that Monica Lewinsky had purchased there.

I'll be very honest. I had no idea this had anything to do with Whitewater, and it made me slightly nervous when I went into a bookstore the other day.

Everything seemed natural, except all the salespeople bad "FBI" printed on the backs of their blue jackets. Smelling a rat, I said to one

#### Philadelphia Unveils **Matching Van Eyeks**

PHILADELPHIA - The Philadelphia Museum of Art on Wednesday put on exhibit a pair of matching paintings by the Flemish master Jan Van Eyck, the first time the works have been shown to-

gether in 500 years. The exhibition featuring Van Eyck's two versions of "St. Francis Receiving the Stigmata" is to run through May 31. Both 15th-century paintings depict St. Francis of Assisi kneeling in a fantastic landscape at the moment when the stigmata of the crucified Christ appear on his bands, feet and side.

Curiosity got the best of me, and I asked the clerk what

was up.
"We got a tip that Monica Lewinsky may have bought a copy of 'Joy of Sex' bere last week, and we're checking it

"What would happen if it was confirmed?"

"It would be another damaging cline to belp Ken Starr in his case against Monica's mother.

"Are people indictable be-cause of the books they pur-"It's up to the judges who

are monitoring the Starr investigation.'

"Will I be subpoenaed for buying 'Rebecca of Sunny-brook Farm'?" "It depends if you bought the hard cover or the soft cover, and whom you bought it

He told me, " 'Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm' does not entitle anyone to executive privilege. But that isn't what we're looking for.

"If Monica bought a book titled 'Vox,'" he continued, "which deals with people having phone sex, it's a serious offense and worth the \$36 million it's costing the taxpayers for the Whitewater

investigation."

"I don't want to go to jail for buying a book," I said.
"You should bave thought about that before you riffled through the U.S. Constitu-

# A Cultural Icon Slams the Poverty of French TV

By Katherine Knorr International Herold Tribune

PARIS — Bernard Pivot is an institution in this country, and a symbol, too, of what French television can do right when it tries to bring culture to a mass audience. A dark hair as he turns his charged

the years, notably when the cult poet Charles Bukowski chugged two bottles of white wine on Pivot's ence. magic has come from Pivot's bringing the common touch to a love of reading. Nothing stands still, how-(written) diatribe against the way the increased commercialism of French television has relegated what little cultural programming is left to a late-night ghetto.

Fulminating against the non-sensical use of ratings and the frenetic race after certain age groups of consumers, Pivol's "Remontrance a la Menagere de Moins de Cinquante Ans" is as folksy as his television persona, beginning with the title, which literally means "A Scolding for the Under-50 Housewife" and refers to a much pursued but ex-

tremely nebulous viewer category.
Stand up for yourselves, ladies! is Pivot's deceptively chatty mes-sage in a book that is really saying that television in France has changed for the worse and that the blame can be laid first on the politicians, right and left, who argued that more commercial stations would bring greater diversity and liberty and ever more brilliant cultural television, and secondly on the industrial moguls who fought to get their hands on the private channels and, says Pivot, tried to poach bim from the public channel 2, offering lots of money and vague promises.

"modern" on the other, which means commercial sponsorship. The main TV stations have essenhighly talkative man with a habit of tially been abandoned to the race for running his fingers through thick private revenue and sponsorship, ror in which the public likes to attention on one of his gnests, Pivot been pushed to depend ever more on has managed to make a group of ads. At any rate, Pivot's "Bouillots talking heads an enduring, popular and often startling feature.

He has famously had help over time "Apostrophes," is programmed more than an hour later, at 10:45, inevitably with half the audi-

dent in generous spending on the

arts at one level, and a race to be

show and, mercifully for the others, staggered off. Mostly, however, the book, more subtle and more melwell - that is, to hring culture not to a small group of aficionados, but ever, and be has recently launched a to a mass audience - will disappear, making France a little poorer. Pivot used to be criticized by some intellectuals for dombing down culture, but in fact be created a unique place where some of the world's most famous writers, plus diplomats, politicians and all sorts of other people with at least a stated interest in books, came into mil-lions of living rooms. He is the champion of the middlebrow.

'Apostrophes' had a tremendous effect on people who didn't give a boot about reading, 'he said recently, amid the piles of books in

his Paris living room.
"Television isn't just there to
pass the time." he said. "It
shouldn't only be a tap of tepid water — you take a little, you wash your hands, then you go to bed. Television should also exalt you. surprise you, irritate you. I think that cultural programs can do that. But now we depend entirely on news to surprise — terrible pic-tures, killings in Algeria. I think that television doesn't surprise enough, in the good sense, by introducing a writer to young people, for example. That's what I like in general-content television.

reflect the French schizophrenia do "serious" programs, Pivot about culture and what is unfor- says, they are not about culture, but tunately called globalization, evi-rather, as with voyeuristic American talk shows, about "sociological" problems, i.e. they're about Other People Who Have Even Bigger Problems Than Yon Do, always

a fascinating topic.
"Television has become a mirsince even the public stations have recognize itself," Pivot said. "The public either likes to see itself, or it likes something very far away, exoticism. Culture is neither of those." Even when programs feature "popular" culture, rap mu-sicians from the Paris suburbs, for example, the emphasis is not so much on what they perform as on The other message in Pivot's how they got there, Pivot says, bow they "made" it, so that the viewer ancholy, is that what he has done so can relate and dream bow he might

'make" it and be a celebrity too. Culture will not disappear from television, Pivot says, indeed there might eventually be more cultural programming than ever before, but only on specialized channels that will draw a specialized audience. and scare off everyone else. (Even Arte, the admirable French-German channel, is a weird by brid — a little too French for the Germans, a little 100 German for the French.)

Call it the triumph of lowbrow and highbrow over middlebrow. That is where Pivot feels the politithe ootion of "public service" and public education - that was associated with public television.

"Ten years ago, I would have said that this is a country that has always listened to writers, and so writers will continue to be needed," Pivot said, "And public television is there to cultivate, not just to inform and to entertain. I would have told you that, and I would have been wrong. And 10 years later, it's not that culture bas been eliminated - the proof is that I'm still there - but its position has changed, it is now exiled.

Today, when I ask myself what is going to happen to television with neral-content television." the increase in specialized channels, best spellers — has essentially when the mainstream channels I think what is on offer culturally written the epitaph to public tele-

cians failed the andience. in losing Bernard Pivot assails television's increased commercialism.

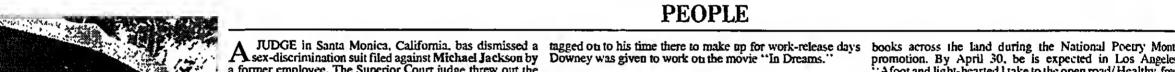
will keep on increasing, but it will be fragmented, it will be by subscription, and it will no longer have vision as a conveyor of culture to a general audience.

Pivot is careful to say that he is the role that the big channels once played of reaching out to people who are not already interested. What I always liked about generalist TV is the mix of people, as in newspapers: There are political pages.

economic ones, sports, fashion. There is, of course, neither an answer nor a solution to the problems that Pivot cites, as he knows himself, and so Pivot - also famous for his annual national dictee. or spelling test, which invariably reveals that intellectuals are not the

basically a happy man. If "Bouillon" runs later than he wishes, at least it isn't after midnight, and at 62, he says he looks forward to a retirement when he might be able to watch all those specialized chan-nels. Still, he said, "If I were 35

today, I would not make a career of cultural television except on cable,' he said. "I come from a modest background, where there was no culture, and I would like others to discover what I discovered. Culture gives breathing space to the soul and television was made to tell those people, this is good, go see it.'



The changes in French television

a former employee. The Superior Court judge threw out the case, ruling that Maureen Doherty's claims were based mostly on "speculation, conjecture and beliefs" and didn't warrant a trial. Doherty, who was fired as vice president of Jackson's MJJ Productions Inc. in 1994, claimed she was wrongfully fired and suffered intentionally inflicted emo-

Buddy Hackett got his star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. And then it was time for a few jokes. The comic poked divarius violin sold at Christie's in 1990 for £902,000. fun at subway builders who have irked Hollywood businesses with a lengthy construction project that forced the removal of hundreds of stars from the Walk of Fame. "I left Brooklyn to get away from the subway and now I have to worry about my star moving because of this subway," he joked. Hackett. 73, has worked in film, television, nightclubs and on Broadway for nearly 50 years.

Robert Downey Jr., who caused a stir when be was escorted from jail to work on a movie, has been released from the Men's Central Jail in Los Angeles to complete his six-month sentence at a drug rehabilitation center. Downey was sentenced for

The Stradivarius violin that inspired Beethoven to write the Kreutzer Sonata was auctioned at Christie's in London on Wednesday for a record price of £947,500 (\$1.6 million). The Kreutzer Stradivarius, named for the French violinist Rudole Kreutzer who bought it from the renowned violin-make Nicbolas Lupot, was purchased by a former violinist and violin dealer from London. The previous record for the sale of a musical instrument was for "The Mendelssohn." a Stra-

A sequel to Britain's biggest box-office hit ever, "The Full Monty," will be made, but the stars will keep their clothes on. The agent for the writer, Simon Beaufoy, said his client was negotiating for the project. The makers are eager to repeat the success of the male-stripper movie set in Sheffield, in northern England, which cost only £2 million (53.3 million) to make but has grossed about £160 million worldwide so far.

Andrew Carroll, a co-founder of the American Poetry and Literacy Project, bas set out from New York on a crossviolating terms of his probation and using drugs. He had been set for release from the jail on March 29, but three days were stocked with verse, Carroll plans to give away 100,000 poetry

promotion. By April 30, be is expected in Los Angeles

"Afoot and light-hearted I take to the open road/ Healthy, free the world before me," says Walt Whitman's "Song of the Open Road," which is included in a book that will be handed to drivers at the Philadelphia tollbooth of the Walt Whitma Bridge. "We really want to reach people from all walks of life," said Carroll. The promotion is backed financially by th

### Mitterrand With a Literary Bent

PARIS — Mazarine Pingeot, the illegitimate daughter of Francois Mitterrand, the late president of France, v make her debut as a writer this week with a book entitled "First Novel," her publisher said Wednesday.

The 270-page romance about two university students was a well-kept secret until the newspaper Le Figaro revealed that the Julliard publishing house was ready to release it on Friday. Pingeot, 23, has left France for three months to avoid publicity, the paper reported. She has already started writing a second novel. Although an open secret among Paris's journalists, the fact that Mitterrand had a daughter by his mistress, the museum curator Anne Pingeot, was not made known publicly until 1994.







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